STATE OF FLORIDA

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Commissioners: JOE GARCIA, CHAIRMAN J. TERRY DEASON SUSAN F. CLARK JULIA L. JOHNSON E. LEON JACOBS, JR.



Division of Water & Wastewater Charles H. Hill Director (850) 413-6900

Public Service Commission

June 1, 1999

Mr. George D. Lentz 283 Mark Twain Lane Rotonda West, FL 33947-2146

Re: Docket No. 981858-WS, Application for authority to transfer facilities of Rotonda West Utility Corporation and Certificates Nos. 565-W and 493-S in Charlotte County to AquaSource Utility, Inc.

Dear Mr. Lentz:

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VAV ITH This letter is to follow-up my February 5, 1999 response to your letter dated January 23, 1999 in which you inquired about AquaSource Utility, Inc.'s acquisition of Rotonda West Utility Corporation and expressed concerns about certain utility policies. As you may recall, I had asked my staff to find out from the utility what rate you were being charged to verify that you were being charged appropriately. I had also asked my staff to pass onto the utility your suggestion that customers be allowed to make payments electronically.

The utility responded to staff's questions on March 2, 1999 by facsimile. Attached is a copy of the response. The utility indicates that it is charging the Commission approved base facility charges of \$31.92. In months where there is no consumption of service, this would represent the total bill. According to the utility's records, you were charged \$39.65 in December of 1998. However, this was because there was some consumption during that billing cycle. As to the matter of electronic payments, I guess it is an idea whose time has not yet come. However, I still believe it would be an excellent customer service option for utilities economically able to implement this service.

I hope this now satisfactorily answers all your questions and apologize for the delay in responding to these last two items. If you have any future questions or concerns, please don \mathbf{f}

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Mr. George D. Lentz Page 2 June 1, 1999

hesitate to contact the utility or the Commission. The Commission has a toll-free number reserved exclusively for consumer complaints. That number is 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

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bill lowe Assistant Director

Attachment

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cc:

Mr. Martin S. Friedman, Esquire Division of Legal Services (Cibula, Crosby) Division of Records and Reporting FILE No. 620 03/02 '99 13:27 ID:ROSE SUNDSTRUM & BENILLY 8506564029

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ROBERT M. C. ROSE

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VIA FAX

March 2, 1999

Ms. Pat Brady Florida Public Service Commission Water and Wastewater Division 2540 Shumard Oaks Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Rotonda West Utility Corporation; Docket No. 981858-WS Our File No. 33087.09

Dear Pat:

This letter is to respond to your February 8, 1999 correspondence regarding the letter the Commission received from Mr. Lentz, a customer of Rotonda West Utility Corporation. In accordance with long standing Commission policy, Rotonda West Utility Corporation bills customers the water and wastewater base facility charges during the months which its customers may reside up north. The total of those base facility charges is \$31.92, which is the amount billed to Mr. Lentz when he has no consumption. The only bill which we could find that approximates the amount set forth in Mr. Lentz's letter is the bill for December consumption, which was \$39.65 (not \$39.63). This amount was for the base facility charges for water and wastewater, as well as the gallonage charge for 1,000 gallons of water used. Thus, there is no discrepancy in the manner in which Rotonda West Utility Corporation billed Mr. Lentz.

With regard to payments electronically, that is not a service which Rotonda West Utility Corporation has determined to be financially feasible at this time. In fact, I do not know of any other water or wastewater utilities that provide for the electronic payment of their bills. Ms. Pat Brady March 2, 1999 Page 2

I trust this satisfactorily responds to your inquiry and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN For the Firm

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MSF/brm

cc: Mr. Derek Clow (via fax)

Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP 2548 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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