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#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application of UTILITIES, INC. OF FLORIDA for an increase in water and wastewater rates in Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, and Seminole Counties, Florida

DOCKET NO. 120209-WS

### **UTILITIES, INC. OF FLORIDA'S REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION**

RECEIVED SPS Utilities, Inc. of Florida (the "Utility"), by and through its undersigned counsel, files this Request for Confidential Classification in relation to documents submitted in connection with the Utility's responses to Staff's Audit in connection with Audit Control No. 12-254-4-1.

1. Pursuant to 367.156, Florida Statutes, this Commission has the authority to classify certain material as proprietary confidential business information. This classification exempts the material from public disclosure under Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes.

2. The Utility requests that certain information provided to Staff auditors in connection with Audit Control No. 12-254-4-1 be classified as proprietary confidential business information under Section 367.156(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (the "Confidential Information"). If this request is granted, then the subject portions of said response to Audit Control No. 12-254-4-1 will be exempt from Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a Justification Matrix providing a justification for the Utility's request. The information is attached hereto both in highlighted and redacted format on CDs.

3. The information produced in response to Staff's Audit for compensation information and the Consolidated Financial Statement of its parent, Utilities, Inc. are intended to be and are treated by the Utility as private and confidential and has not been disclosed externally and has been strictly controlled internally.

4. A portion of the information consists of employee's name and title, base salary, benefits, overtime, raises, taxes, pension information and total compensation. This information should be classified as proprietary confidential business information because its disclosure would impair the Utility's competitive interests, provide other utility companies information to lure employees away (thereby driving up salaries and rates), and create circumstances under which infighting and employee morale could be negatively affected. <u>See Florida Power & Light Company et al. v. Public Service Commission</u>, 31 So. 3d 860 (Fla. 1st DCA 2010).

5. Requiring the disclosure of each employee's compensation information violates each employee's right to privacy under Article I, Section 23 of the Florida Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Utilities, Inc. of Florida prays for the entry of an order treating the information identified in this Motion as confidential and exempt from disclosure.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of August, 2013, by:

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MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN For the Firm

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 120209-WS

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Request for Confidential

Classification has been furnished by U.S. Mail to the following parties this 1st day of August 2013:

Stephen Reilly, Associate Public Counsel Office of Public Counsel C/o The Florida Legislature 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Michael Lawson, Esquire Office of General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN For the Firm

Exhibit "A"

# JUSTIFICATION MATRIX

Location	Justification
(Document name and location of information)	
Salaries: <u>Workpaper 44-1</u> All of columns A through O with the exception of the final totals at the end of the respective columns	<ul> <li>§367.156(3)(d) Disclosure of compensation data, tax data, benefits data, overtime data and salary increase data would impair the ability of the Utility to contract for employees on favorable terms.</li> <li>§367.156(3)(e) Disclosure of the compensation data would impair the Utility's competitive interests as described in Florida Power &amp; Light Company et al. v. Public Service Commission, 35 Fla. L. Weekly d516 (Fla. 1st DCA 2010). The Utility keeps this information strictly confidential to prevent other utilities from stealing their employees and to prevent lowered morale and infighting among employees who have the same position but varying wages.</li> </ul>
	Article I, Section 23 of the Florida Constitution. Disclosure of the information would invade the privacy rights of the employee.
Consolidated Financial Statements: Workpaper 9 Location: Pages 2 – 3 & 5, The amounts under columns headings 2011 and 2012 Page 4, The amounts under columns headings Paid-in Capital, Retained Earnings & Total Page 9, Note 2, 1st paragraph under Income Taxes Page 10, Note 3, 2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph Pages 10 & 11, Note 4, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> paragraphs Pages 11 & 12, Notes 5, 6 & 8, The amounts under columns headings 2011 and 2012 Page 13, Notes 9 & 10 Page 14, Note 11 Pages 15 & 16, Note 14, The amounts under columns headings 2011 and 2012 Page 17, Note 15, the last sentence of the first paragraph, and the amounts in the table Pages 19 & 20, Note 17	§367.156(3)(a),(b),(d) & (e): Disclosure of the financial statements of Utilities Inc., which is not a public company and is not subject to public disclosure of its financial statements would impair Utilities, Inc.'s competitive interests, could be used to discern trade secrets, or harm its ability to contract for goods and services on a favorable basis. Utilities, Inc. keeps this information strictly confidential also to prevent competitors and prospective counterparties from information which could be used in future negotiations to the disadvantage of Utilities, Inc. and its affiliates.