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DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES
NOREEN S. DAVIS
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6199

Public Service Commission

September 11, 2001

Mr. Kenneth E. Ruiter
Ms. Dorothy J. Ruiter
7507 Palm Drive
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

010887-WS

Re: Docket No. ~~010941-WS~~ - Application for approval of merger of Utilities, Inc. and Nuon Acquisition Sub, Inc., an Illinois corporation, and for determination of Commission's jurisdiction of such merger.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ruiter:

Thank you for your letter dated August 23, 2001, regarding the application filed in the above-referenced docket. In your letter, you indicated that you object to the merger of Nuon Acquisition Sub, Inc. with Utilities, Inc. and wish for the Commission to disapprove the merger.

While I am not in a position to answer many of your questions regarding the company's intent with respect to the merger, I would like to note that all the company's filings with the Commission are online at www.psc.state.fl.us. Click the "filings and dockets" box, "Dockets" line, and enter 010887 as the docket number. If you do not have access to the internet at home, many public libraries have internet access available. I can state that the company has not filed any paperwork to increase your water rates, and that a separate proceeding would need to be conducted before the company could raise your rates.

This Commission will consider your concerns when reviewing the application to determine if approval of the merger is appropriate. However, the Commission needs to know your intent regarding your objection to this application. If you choose to go beyond making your objection known and to pursue the objection, you may request a formal hearing, which will be scheduled and at which you will be required to provide formal testimony and other evidence to support your protest. Although the Commission allows individuals to represent themselves at hearing, you may wish to hire an attorney to represent you.

Please advise this Commission by September 19, 2001, if you intend to pursue your objection and wish to request a formal hearing. Your request should be made in writing and should be addressed to Blanca Bayó, Director, Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida.

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32399-0850. If we do not hear from you by September 19, 2001, we will assume that you do not wish to pursue a formal hearing and your letter will be placed on the correspondence side of the docket file in this case for informational purposes.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (850) 413-6076 or Ms. Pat Brady at (850) 413-6686.

Sincerely,



Lawrence Harris
Senior Attorney

LDH/lw

cc: Martin Friedman, Esquire
Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services
Division of Regulatory Oversight (Brady, Redemann)

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