VORBECK & VORBECK, P.A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW



GARY ALAN VORBECK FREDERICK A. BECHTOLD

* BOARD CERTIFIED CITY, COUNTY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAWYER 207 EAST MAGNOLIA STREET ARCADIA, FLORDIA 34266 (941) 494-5757 FAX (941) 494-0016

October 21, 1997

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Fl 32399-0850



Re: Lake Suzy Utilities, Inc.'s Application for Original Certificate

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed herewith are an original and two copies of the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County, Florida's objection to Lake Suzy Utilities, Inc's application for application for original certificate and request for formal hearing for filing with the PSC.

Yours sincerely,

ACK Gary A. Vorbeck

APP Encs.
W:\DATA\DC\LIT\PSC\102197.PSC

CAF

CMU

CTR

EAG

LEG

LIN

OPC

RCH

SEC

10832 OCT 22 5

CHIGINAL

STATE OF FLORIDA BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: APPLICATION OF LAKE SUZY UTILITIES, INC., FOR ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE

Docket No. 970657

OBJECTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO THE APPLICATION OF LAKE SUZY UTILITIES, INC., FOR ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE AND REQUEST FOR FORMAL HEARING.

The BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, (hereinafter referred to as the "Board"), hereby files this Objection to the Application of Lake Suzy Utilities, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as "Lake Suzy Utilities") for Original Certificate, and requests for formal hearing thereon, and would state that:

- This objection relates to the Application of Lake Suzy Utilities for an Original Certificate, filed September 26, 1997, (hereinafter referred to as the "Application").
- 2. The Board is the governing body of DeSoto County, Florida, a county affected by the Application.
- 3. The Board raises the following objections to the Application filed by Lake Suzy Utilities:
 - a. Approval of the Application is not in the public's interest.
 - b. The Application's proposed franchise area into Charlotte County is duplicative of another utility system in the area operated by Charlotte County Utilities. Charlotte County Utilities has the

- ability to adquately serve the proposed franchise area contained in Charlotte County.
- c. The Application is inconsistent with the DeSoto County

 Comprehensive Plan, in that, among other things, it does not promote the orderly growth of DeSoto County.
- d. The application does not serve a valid public purpose, but rather is being submitted solely for the purpose of creating an intercounty utility and remove Lake Suzy Utilities from the jurisdiction of DeSoto County.
- e. The Public Service Commission is without jurisdiction to hear this Application. On March 5, 1997, the Board rescinded the Public Service Commission's jurisdiction over private water and wastewater utilities in DeSoto County, Florida. The Board's recision of the Public Service Commission's jurisdiction was acknowledged by the Public Service Commission in Order No. PSC-97-0603-FOF-WS, issued May 27, 1997. Lake Suzy Utilities did not file its Application until September 26, 1997. The Application was not "pending" before the Public Service Commission, for purposes of Section 367.171(5), Florida Statutes, at the time Lake Suzy Utilities became subject to the regulation of DeSoto County, Florida. Nor can Lake Suzy Utilities rely upon Section 367.171(7), Florida Statutes, to vest jurisdiction in the Public Service Commission, in that, Lake Suzy Utilities service area

does not "traverse county boundaries." Section 367.171(7), Florida Statutes, does not confer jurisdiction to the Public Service Commission where an applicant merely proposes to traverse county boundaries. In short, Lake Suzy Utilities is a private water and wastewater utility operating solely within the boundaries and jurisdiction of DeSoto County, Florida, and the Public Service Commission is without jurisdiction to hear this application.

- 4. Wherefore, the Board requests the following relief:
 - a. That the Public Service Commission deny the Application;
 - That pursuant Rule 25-22.029, F.A.C., the Public Service Commission issue a Notice of Proposed Agency Action concerning the Application; and
 - If necessary, the Public Service Commission hold a public hearing on the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Koncar

County Administrator

GARY ALAN VORBECK

FLA. BAR #241342

FREDERICK A. BECHTOLD

FLA. BAR #0863262

Attorneys for DeSoto County, Florida

VORBECK & VORBECK, P.A.

207 E. Magnolia Street Arcadia, Florida 34266 941/494-5757

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the addressees named in the attached service list by United States Mail this 21 day of October, 1997.

Gary Alan Vorbeck

Service List

Lake Suzy Utilities, Inc. 12408 SW Sheri Avenue Lake Suzy, FL 34266 Charlotte County Attorney's Office 18500 Murdock Circle Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094