### STATE OF FLORIDA

Commissioners: J. TERRY DEASON, CHAIRMAN E. LEON JACOBS, JR. LILA A. JABER BRAULIO L. BAEZ



DIVISION OF RECORDS & REPORTING BLANCA S. BAYÓ DIRECTOR (850) 413-6770

# Public Service Commission

October 6, 2000

F. Marshall Deterding, Esquire Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP 2548 Blairstone Pines Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Docket No. 960545-WS - Aloha Utilities' escrow agreement

Dear Mr. Deterding:

Enclosure

CC:

Ralph Jaeger, Esquire

Enclosed are two originals of an escrow agreement between Aloha Utilities and the Commission. Both have been signed by Blanca S. Bayó, the Commission's designated agent in such matters. I am returning these to you with the understanding you will have them signed and executed and will then return one of the originals to us for the docket file.

Please call me if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Kay Flynn, Chief **Bureau of Records** 

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PSC	Website: http://www.floridensc.com	Internet F-mail: contact@nec state flux	

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October 5, 2000 VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ralph Jaeger, Esquire Division of Legal Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0833

Re:

Aloha Utilities, Inc.; Docket No. 960545-WS

Water Quality Investigation Our File No. 26038.17

Dear Ralph:

As a result of our discussions today, I am attaching two originals of the Escrow Agreement that you have approved for use in this case. As soon as I receive this back from you, I will forward it onto the client who will then take it to the bank for final execution and we will return one of the originals to you. Please have Ms. Bayo, or someone of authority in the clerk's office, sign the Escrow Agreement and return both originals to me for execution by the Utility and its banker at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

ROSE, SUNDSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP

F. Marshall Deterding For The Firm

For 1.

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Mr. Stephen Watford

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FMD/tmg

cc:

#### ESCROW AGREEMENT

THIS ESCROW AGREEMENT is made by and between Bank of America (the "Bank"), the Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC"), and Aloha Utilities, Inc. (the "Utility"), a Florida corporation, upon the following terms, conditions and considerations:

### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, by Order No. PSC-00-1285-FOF-WS, issued July 14, 2000, the FPSC authorized the Utility to collect increased service availability charges on a temporary basis from its customers, and;

WHEREAS, by Order No. PSC-00-1285-FOF-WS, the Utility is required to file a Service Availability Application in accordance with Commission Rules for February 1, 2001 for the purpose of setting permanent service availability charges.

WHEREAS, by Order No. PSC-00-1285-FOF-WS the Utility is required to provide security for the excess of the temporary service availability charges over the existing service availability charges, in the event a refund should become necessary as a result of the Commission's final decision on the appropriate level of service availability charges to be determined in the case required to be filed by February 1, 2001, and;

WHEREAS the Bank has agreed to hold such funds in an interest bearing account, the parties agree as follows:

- 1. The foregoing representations are true and correct.
- 2. The difference between the temporary \$500 per ERC service availability charge and the existing approved \$163.80 per ERC service availability charge collected shall be deposited monthly by the Utility in accordance with Order No. PSC-00-1285-FOF-WS.
- 3. The escrow account shall bear interest at the prevailing rate.
- 4. No funds will be withdrawn from the escrow account without the signature of both the Director of the Division of Records and Reporting of the FPSC and the Receiver of the Utility. Signature cards executed by the Director of the Division of Records and Reporting of the FPSC and the Receiver of the Utility shall designate the appropriate authorized signature for each.
- 5. The Bank shall forward regular monthly statements (including canceled checks) to the Receiver and shall mail a copy of the monthly account statement to the FPSC.

- 6. The Bank may, without reason, withdraw from this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the FPSC and to the Utility.
- 7. The Utility shall indemnify and hold the Bank harmless from any claim, demand or loss suffered by the Bank, and the cost thereof (including court costs and attorney fees for negotiation, trial and appeal).
- 8. This escrow account is established pursuant to FPSC Order No. PSC-00-1285-FOF-WS, issued July 14, 2000, for the benefit of the Utility's customers.
- 9. Information concerning the escrow account shall be available from the Bank to the FPSC and its representatives at all times.
- 10. Pursuant to <u>Cosentino v. Elson</u>, 263 So.2d 253 (Fla. 3rd DCA 1972), escrow accounts are not subject to garnishment.

THIS AGREEMENT shall become effective and binding upon allparties upon the date that it becomes executed by all parties.

ALOHA UTILITIES, INC.

	BY:
	Stephen Watford, President
(Corporate Seal)	
	BANK
	BY:
(Corporate Seal)	
	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
	BY: Danen S. Sará
	Director, Records & Reporting
(Seal)	$\mathcal{I}$

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