### **Dorothy Menasco**

From:

Michele Parks [michele@RSBattorneys.com]

Sent:

Monday, October 01, 2007 3:26 PM

To:

Filings@psc.state.fl.us

Cc:

Ralph Jaeger

Subject:

Sun River Utilities, Inc.

Attachments: Resp to Co's M Ext of Time to File TM & Exh.pdf

- a. Martin S. Friedman, Esquire
   Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP
   2180 W. State Road 434
   Suite 2118
   Longwood, FL 32779
- b. Docket No.: 070109-WS; Application of Sun River Utilities (MSM Utilities) for Certificate Amendment
- c. Sun River Utilities, Inc.
- d. 1 page letter/3 page Response
- e. Response to Charlotte County's Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and Exhibits

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October 1, 2007

#### **E-FILING**

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Docket No.: 070109-WS, Application for Amendment of Certificates 611-W and 527-

S to Extend Water and Wastewater Service Area to Include Certain Land in Charlotte

County

Our File No.: 41069.03

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket is Sun River Utilities, Inc.'s Response to Charlotte County's Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and Exhibits.

Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,

MARTIN S. PRIEDMAN

For the Firm

MSF/mp Enclosure

cc: A. A. Reeves, Vice President (w/enclosure)

Robert C. Brannon, Esquire (w/enclosure) Todd D. Engelhardt, Esquire (w/enclosure)

Ralph Jaeger, Esquire (w/enclosure)

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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08982 OCT-15

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application of MSM Utilities, LLC, for Amendment of Certificates 611-W and 527-S to Extend Water and Wastewater Service Areas to Include Certain Land in Charlotte County, Florida

Docket No.: 070109-WS

# SUN RIVER UTILITIES, INC.'S RESPONSE TO CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS

Applicant, SUN RIVER UTILITIES, INC. ("Sun River"), by and through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to Rule 28-106.204, F.A.C., files this Response to Charlotte County's Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and Exhibits.

- 1. Charlotte County's Motion is necessitated solely by its lack of due diligence in prosecuting its objection to Sun River's Application. Charlotte County filed its Objection on March 16, 2007. Two weeks later, Sun River served Interrogatories and a Request to Produce on Charlotte County. Charlotte County subsequently served discovery on Sun River.
- 2. The parties participated in a mediation on July 17, 2007, that was unsuccessful. This matter was originally scheduled for hearing on November 1 and 2, 2007, but on August 16, 2007, was subsequently rescheduled for January 16 and 17, 2008. Apparently sometime thereafter Charlotte County decided to retain outside counsel, who made an appearance on September 12, 2007.
- 3. Charlotte County's new attorneys are seeking a two-week extension of time to file testimony and exhibits which are otherwise due October 16, 2007, due to the attorney's "current caseload" and "the complexity of the matter." Before retaining outside counsel, one would reasonably expect that Charlotte County would confirm that such DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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counsel could meet the current schedule. There is nothing especially complex about this proceeding. The issues are those typical to a contested service area amendment case. One would have thought that Charlotte County would have confirmed that the retained attorneys have sufficient knowledge of Commission rules and practices, i.e., competency, to handle

this type of case before retaining them.

Charlotte County's gratuitous offer not to object to extensions to the deadline 4.

for the rebuttal testimony and exhibits does not justify Charlotte County's request. Such a

reschedule would make Sun River's rebuttal testimony and exhibits due on December 14,

2007, after prehearing statements, and only a couple of weeks (which includes the

Christmas holiday) before the discovery deadline. Charlotte County will likely want to

depose Sun River's witnesses after rebuttal testimony is filed and such a short time, taking

into consideration the holidays, places an unreasonable burden on Sun River.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated, Sun River Utilities, Inc., requests the Prehearing

Officer deny Charlotte County's Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and

Exhibits.

Respectfully submitted on this day

of October, 2007, by:

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2180 W. State Road 434

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO.: 070109-WS

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2007, to:

Todd D. Englehardt, Esquire Harold A. McLean, Esquire Akerman, Senterfitt 106 E. College Avenue, Suite 1200 Post Office Box 1877 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1877

Ralph Jaeger, Esquire OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN

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