RECEIVED-FPSC

09 FEB 23 AM 9: 35

February 19, 2009

COMMISSION **CLERK**

Director Office of Commission Clerk 2540 Shumand Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Michael B. Twomey, Esq. P.O. Box 5256 Tallahassee, FL 32314-5256

090056-SU

Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. transfer of Water/Wastewater facility RE: from Fountain Lakes Sewer Corp.

Dear Director & Mr. Twomey,

Please allow this to serve as a formal objection to the proposed purchase of the Fountain Lakes Sewer Corp. sewer wastewater facility by Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. on behalf of myself, my wife, and two children.

We purchased our single family home in Fountain Lakes, Spring Garden Lane, in 2003 and have noticed ongoing problems with the sewer facility. This problem not only affects our safety, but the health of our community.

Apparently, the utility was established when there was no other alternatives for central a sewer service. The existing plant at Fountain Lakes is well over 20 years old and is at or near the end of its useful life and should be retired. The existing plant sits on the edge of a wetland that flows into the Estero River and then Estero Bay. Estero Bay is recognized by South Florida Water Management District as an impaired water body that receives excess nutrients. Removing the sewer plant would result in a significant reduction of nutrient loading.

		The plant has not been well maintained and is continuous source of odor problems, especially in our community. It appears that the plant has insufficient digester space
COM		which results in significant microbial die-off during the stabilization process prior to
ECR		removal of sludge. This would explain the odor problems that are experienced with
GCL		regularity.
OPC		The collection system, especially the older parts made out of vitrified clay pipe, has
RCP		serious infiltration issues and structural problems from what I have been told by friends
		that work at sewer viewer who have been out to check the system when there were Cont:
		blockages. The plant has had multiple problems over the years with the DEP for too
ADM CLK	Do	
CLK	157	NOCHMENT NUMBER-DATE

Contract of The Party

01469 FEB 23 8

Cont: Fountain Lakes Sewer, p.2

many connections and flows beyond permitted capacity. None of this is reflected in the application for transfer.

We recently has a spill a few days ago, and numerous ones over the years. My family and many others ride their bikes along these areas and some play at or around these areas where spills occur. One occurred right outside my home while we were walking our dog! This is happening in multiple areas of the community. Although I am not an expert, it appears the spills are continuing due to overcapacity and due to nobody ever cleaning the collection system and/or rehabilitating the lift stations that are past due for rehab. The clean-up effort has been minimal with just light dusting of lime over some of the affected areas.

Due to the fact that there is now more than enough capacity at the new state of the art Bonita Springs Utilities plant to handle the flows from Fountain Lakes and Marsh Landing it would appear that the continued operation of the Fountain Lakes package plant is unnecessary and that the citizens in these communities will be better served by connecting to the existing central sewer. Upgrading the plant would require substantial capital investment on top of the premium price Aqua is paying for the system. This will no doubt push our rates much higher than surrounding utilities.

On behalf myself, my wife, two children and two dogs, I kindly request that you please strongly consider these points and hope you deliberate on these matters at length and come to the conclusion that the proposed purchase of this plant is clearly against the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens in these communities. Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Boyrer

3891 Spring gardenn Estern FC 33928