## Eric Fryson



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January 22, 2013
VIA E-FILING

Ms. Ann Cole, Commission Clerk
Office of Commission Clerk
Public Service Commission
2540 Shumark Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
Re: Docket No. 120152-WS- Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Orange County by Pluris Wedgefield, Inc.
Our File No.: 43085.15
Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed is a compilation of Pluris Wedgefield, Inc.'s ("Utility") follow-up with customers regarding comments raised at the customer meeting held on December 5, 2012, which includes a spreadsheet of the follow-up with each customer who commented and letters from customers regarding the Utility's efforts.

Should you or Staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.


MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN
For the Firm

MSF/der
Enclosures
cc: Maurice Gallarda (via e-mail)
Ana VanEsselstine (via e-mail)
Bart Fletcher (via e-mail)
Steve Reilly, Esquire (via email)
Michael Lawson, Esquire (via email)

# Via PDF in an Email; Original to be Filed 

State of Florida Public Services Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. ("Pluris") Response to Rich Mehochoko PowerPoint Presentation

Dear Mr. McRoy,
In accordance with the request of the PSC for Pluris to review and comment on the PowerPoint presentation by the Wedgefield Homeowners' Association ("WHOA") president, Rich Mehochoko, provided in the following is Pluris' response.

Mr. Mehochoko offered a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of WHOA members who are customers of Pluris. Note that a majority of Pluris customers are not members of WHOA. Twenty four (24) customers spoke at the customer meeting. Pluris has reached out to these customers as well as others who did not speak about the concerns expressed during the meeting. An excel spreadsheet has been prepared by Pluris and updated weekly following meetings with customers. The updated spreadsheet is forwarded to the PSC for review.

Approximately 11 PowerPoint slides contained questions not generated by Mr. Mehochoko but were interrogatories provided to Mr. Mehochoko from the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC") staff. These interrogatories had previously been sent to Pluris by the PSC as part of Data Request No. 3 and Pluris has provided a formal response back to the PSC in its letter dated December 27, 2012.

For convenience, Pluris has attempted in the following to capture the concems as expressed in the PowerPoint presentation. Where a concern has been expressed on a slide, the slide number has been referenced and the actual statement reproduced.

Pluris's response is presented immediately below in blue highlighted text.

## Slides 4 and 5 - Statements as Appearing on Slides

1. Pluris to contact and use local media, TV and radio, to broadcast notices of water outages, boil water alerts, etc.
Mr. Joe Kuhns, Pluris's regional manager called the three major networks in the area during the September20", 2012 outage and was unable to reach an appropriate staff member to have the notices streamed across the TV stations. Pluris has used the media in its other utilities in Tampa. Part of the issue in the Wedgefield outage was the time of the break which occurred at 1:00 AM EST, when the vast majority of customers are sleeping. Mr. Kuhns followed up with each of the stations subsequent to the outage to insure Pluris has the correct and current telephone numbers to the assigned media staff.
2. Immediately post signs at all entrances and exits alerting residents to any problems, e.g., water outages, boil alerts, etc.

Pluris is required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("FDEP") to hang door tags on each affected home within 24 hours of a Precautionary Boil Water Notice. Pluris did this. In addition, Mr. Kuhns had staff post signs at the three entrances. This is not a FDEP requirement. The signs were not commercially made and following the outage, Pluris had formal sign post notice boards commercially constructed and placed permanently at each entrance to the development. Signs can now be mounted on both sides of the sign notice boards so they can be viewed by customers entering or exiting the development.

Presented on the following two pages are pictures of the three sign notice boards with a current notice (12.27.12) at each of the three entrances to Wedgefield.


2|Page

3. Posting of signs at all entrances and exits alerting residents when the alerts are over, no more boiling, and water is safe for consumption.

Pictures of the Pluris sign notice boards at each of the three entrances are illustrated in 2.0 above. Presented below is a picture of the new commercially made metal signs for use in the future. There are a total of two (2) signs for each notice board (one sign on each side of each board) so that customers entering or exiting the development can read the signs.

4. Publish a copy of the actual testing lab results on the Pluris website and make copies (electronically) available to the Wedgefield Homeowners Association for posting on our website.

The FDEP requires all utilities in Florida, including Pluris to provide each customer with its annual drinking water quality report, known as the "Consumer Confidence Report ("CCR") and Pluris mails this report out each year to all customers. Pluris will begin publishing a copy of the CCR on its website and will provide a copy to the WHOA to publish on its website.
5. Provide the Wedgefield Homeowners Association with a designated point-of-contact, name and phone number, in Pluris upper management which will allow proper communication.

Prior to Mr. Mehochoko becoming president of the WHOA, Pluris had conducted a voluntary customer meeting on November 23, 2010 and provided WHOA with the contact information for Mr. Maurice Gallarda, President and Principal Engineer, Ms. Beverly Yopp, Director of Customer Care and then Pluris regional manager Ron Kramer. Mr. Joe Kuhns, regional manager and employee of Pluris Holdings, LLC has met with Mr. Mehochoko a number of times and has provided his business contact information to him.
6. Utilize a "Robo-Call" (Voice Broadcasting) system to contact and notify Pluris customers of events that effect customers

Following the first outage and prior to meeting with the WHOA, Pluris had contacted CallFire, a national voice broadcasting system (VBS") company. Pluris contacted CallFire after the problem with the local media contact. The VBS was used on the subsequent outage the day before Thanksgiving and based on actual customer comments, was welcomed.

The following report was generated from the CallFire automated reporting.

| Date and Time (EST) | Live Answer | Answering <br> Machines | Busy | No Answer | Carrier Error | All Circuits Busy | Totals | Percentage of Total Active Accounts |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & 11.20 .12 \\ & 12: 07 \mathrm{PM} \end{aligned}\right.$ | $\begin{gathered} 42 \% \\ 529 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 52 \% \\ 650 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \% \\ & 68 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \% \\ & 13 \end{aligned}$ |  | 1,262 | 81\% |
| $\text { 11.20.12 } \quad \text { 4:40 PM }$ | $\begin{array}{r} 40 \% \\ 529 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 44 \% \\ & 651 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \% \\ & 228 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \% \\ & 13 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | 1,426 | 92\% |
| $\text { 11.20.12 } \begin{array}{ll}  \\ & 9: 37 \text { PM } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 38 \% \\ 570 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 44 \% \\ 658 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \% \\ & 245 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1 \% \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ |  | 1,484 | 96\% |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} 11.21 .12 \\ \\ 12: 39 ~ P M \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline 39 \% \\ 583 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46 \% \\ & 684 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \% \\ & 216 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \% \\ & 14 \end{aligned}$ |  | 1,499 | 97\% |
| 11.23.12 $11: 11$ AM | $39 \%$ 590 | $45 \%$ 672 | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \% \\ & 218 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \% \\ & 13 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} <1 \% \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | 1,497 | 96\% |

Mr. Mehochoko presented a copy of this table as slide 48 along with the following text directly below the table.

[^0]
## 13 days later that they called 1,499 phone numbers. We would like to see the proof, as of today's date, that Pluris has this quantity."

Mr. Mehochoko inferred in his slide that Pluris was being dishonest in the numbers presented in the CallFire report.
As in most utilities, a prospective customer has to complete an application for service. The purpose is so that the customer can be billed and contacted. Pluris has telephone numbers for all customers. The purpose of the VBS insert sent to customers was solely to ask for the preferred number or updated information as a number of customers work outside of the normal business hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Pluris wanted to make sure these customers were covered with notification through the VBS.

Mr. Mehochoko did request that Pluris tum over to him the entire Pluris Wedgefield, Inc.'s customer telephone and address lists and Mr. Joe Kuhns shared with him that the customer information is confidential to the customer. This sentiment was reinforced with the Pluris customers met with following the customer meeting.

The raw data from the CallFire VBS which includes a complete log of the telephone numbers dialed is available to PSC staff through Pluris' attomey, Martin Friedman.

## Slide 26

Presented on slide 26 Mr. Mehochoko had the following statement;
"It became even more concerning when water samples tested positive for Coliform bacteria and fecal matter."

Mr. Mehochoko unfortunately was in error in regards to stating that "water samples tested positive for fecal". There was no fecal coliform in the water sample test result. In accordance with FDEP requirements, Pluris tests monthly for bacteriological constituents. If Total Coliform is detected then the sample is kept to evaluate for fecal coliform.

Pluris has never had fecal coliform detected in its water since owning the utility.

## Slide 34

Presented on slide 34 Mr. Mehochoko had the following statements
r WATER SOMETIMES "STINKS" OF ROTTEN EGGS (HYDROGEN SULFIDE GAS DISSOLVED) THIS MEASUREMENT IS NOT REPORTED!

The issue of the hydrogen sulfide ( $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ ") was addressed by Utilities Inc with the investment in the MIEX water treatment system back prior to the last rate case. Prior to the MIEX system, $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ was being treated through aeration at the water treatment plant. Customers near the water treatment plant complained about the odor resulting from the aeration. Utilities Inc. invested in the MIEX system to address several problems including TTHMs, HAA5s and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$. When Pluris acquired the system, Utilities Inc. was not using the manufacturer's recommended resin volume and as a result there were still issues with TTHMs, HAA5s and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$. Pluris, immediately implemented the manufacturer's recommendations, and the TTHMs, HAA5s and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ issues stopped. Pluris has not had a complaint on odor since making the necessary operational changes.

## \% MANY CUSTOMERS FORCED TO HAVE SECONDARY WATER SOFTENING - WHY?

Good Question.
Presented in the following is a table showing hardness classifications in both grains per gallon and milligrams per liter ("mg/l); also equal to parts per million ("ppm"). Water in the two wells before treatment has historically averaged about 4.4 grains per gallon of hardness. The water is then softened, as it has been since the original owner installed the water softener at the plant, to an average of 2.20 to 2.47 grains per gallon ( $42.2 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{I}$ ) of hardness, as affirmed in testing at customer homes following the customer meeting.

| Water Hardness Scale |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grains Per Gallon | Milligrams Per Liter (mg/L) or <br> Parts Per Million (ppm) | Classification |
| less than 1.0 | less than 17.1 | Soft |
| $1.0-2.47)-3.5$ | $17.1-60$ | Slightly Hard |
| Pluris highest kitchen faucet test at customer homes |  |  |
| $3.5-7.0$ |  |  |
| $7.0-10.5$ | $60-120$ | Moderately Hard |
| over 10.5 | over 180 | Hard |

Pluris tested the water at a number of the customers' homes that spoke at the meeting and Pluris met with. All of these customers including a chemical engineer and an electrical engineer were surprised to see the hardness range of values between 2.45 and 2.47 grains per gallon. Additional water softening by the customer is not necessary and it is solely up to the customer as to whether they want a water softener. In several of the customers' homes the measured hardness, after their additional water softening was <1.

## WATER IS "HARD" - A HAYDAY FOR WATER SOFTENING SUPPLIERS!

- Additional Cost for Customers of Pluris Wedgefield

Pluris agrees with this statement. Several customers confirmed that water softener companies were the reason for their softeners being installed. It is Pluris's opinion and was shared with each of the customers that water consumption increases with water softeners due to the regeneration cycles and advised each customer that they did not need additional water softening. Nearly all of the customers that Pluris met with were unaware the water was softened at the water treatment plant.

## WATER HAS HIGH PH LEVEL(ABOVE 7.6) 7.0 IS NORMAL

- MANY HOMES HAVE HAD TO BE REPIPED DUE TO CORROSION BY HIGH PH (BASIC) AT THE HOMEOWNERS EXPENSE EVEN THOUGH THE SITUATION CAN BE CONTROLLED BY THE WATER UTILITY.

As stated a number of times, Pluris's water meets the FDEP drinking water requirements. Pluris does not understand Mr. Mehochoko's definition of 7.0 being "Normal". The value of 7.0 is defined as "Neutral" on pH scales (see pH scale below - hallway between 0 to14).

The City of Tampa states (see source below) that it maintains its drinking water between 7.5 and 8.5 .

Mr. Mehochoko's statement above that "CORROSION BY HIGH PH" reflects a basic lack of understanding of pH. Higher pH is associated with scale build up not corrosion. Lower pH is associated with corrosion.

Presented in the following is a typical pH Scale.


Mr. Mehochoko may also be unaware that the EPA does not treat pH as a primary constituent for drinking water. An excerpt taken from the EPA website (http://water.epa.gov/drinkcontaminants/secondarvstandards.cfm) is presented in the following;
"In addition, EPA has established National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations that set non-mandatory water quality standards for 15 contaminants. EPA does not enforce these "secondary maximum contaminant levels" or "SMCLs." They are established only as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL."

The SCML for pH is $6.5-8.5$. Pluris's water, as with the other water utilities in Florida delivers drinking water to customers within the SCMLs.

Presented in the following is an excerpt from the City of Tampa's website relating to the pH in the City's drinking water.
"The City of Tampa maintains drinking water pH values between 7.5 and 8.5 to minimize the corrosion of our customers' water pipes.

The pH value is a measure of measuring the corrosiveness of drinking water.
Drinking water standards require water utilities to maintain pH value within the range of 6.5 and 8.5. When the pH value is below 7.0, water tends to be corrosive and can damage metal pipes carrying the water. When pH is between 7.0 and 8.5 , water is much less corrosive."

Webpage is at http://www.tampagov.net/dept water/information resources/Water Quality.asp.

## Slide 35

The following statement is presented on slide 35 .
In Pluris's own latest mailing of its 2011 Water Quality Report to its customers, Pluris states that the EPA requires Testing of over 80 drirking water contaminants! Yet orly 10 measurements are included in its report!

All utilities are required to test for the constituents mandated by the FDEP. All utilities are only required to report detected constituents.

## Slide 38

The following table is presented as slide 38 .

| Stage I DSinfectants and Distafection By-Products |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| For bronate, chloramines, of chlorine, the kevel detected is the the highes ruaniag unnual average (RAA), conqued quarterly, of monathy arerages of al smples collecied. For halowetic acids or TTHM, the level detced is the highast RAA, compured quarterly, of quanely zrerages of sll samples collected if the system is monitoriag quanerly or is the sverage of all samples taken dariag the year if the system monitors kss fiequeally than quanterly. Range of Results is the range of indridtad sampt resols (lowest to higheg) for all monitoriag locations, iecluding Initiad Distribution System Rraluation (IDSFI results as well as Stage I complianoe resulta |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unle of Measurement | Dates of sampling <br> (ma/yr.) | MCI or MRDI. Vhbation IN | $\begin{gathered} \text { Iavel } \\ \text { Detected } \end{gathered}$ | Range of Results | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MCIG } \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { MRDLS } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { MCI. or } \\ \text { MRDL } \end{array}$ | L.likely Source of Contamination |
| Chlorine (ppmi) | $\begin{aligned} & 1 / 1 / 11- \\ & 123311 \end{aligned}$ | N | 1.75 | 0.7-4.0 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MRDLG } \\ & =4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{MRDL}= \\ 4.0 \end{gathered}$ | Water additive used to coatrol microbes |
| Halouctic Acids (five) (HANS) (ppo) | 9/ISII | N | ) | 38.2 | NA | MCL=60 | By-product of driaking water disinfectioa |
| TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 971511 | N | (55.2) | 55.2 | N/A | MCL= 80 | By-prodect of driakiag wnter disinfection |

Mr. Mehochoko highlighted in red the results presented in Pluris's 2011 CCR for TTHMs and HAA5s of $55.2 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{I}$ and $38.2 \mu \mathrm{~g} /$, respectively. He commented that these values represented "more than half" of the values for MCLs. The Federal EPA sets the action levels for all Primary and secondary constituents and has set the MCLs for TTHMs and HAA5s of $80 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{l}$ and $60 \mu \mathrm{~g} /$ respectively.

Mr. Mehochoko may not have been aware of the history of TTHMs and HAA5s prior to and after the acquisition of the utility by Pluris. The following table was sent out to all customers shortly after Pluris acquired the utility. Utilities, Inc. exceeded FDEP limits for TTHMs and HAA5s prior to the acquisition.

| Quarter Ending | Owner | TTHMs <br> Prior Quarter <br> Results <br> ( $\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{I})$ | TTHMs <br> Average <br> $(\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{I})$ | HAA5s <br> Prior Quarter <br> Results <br> ( $\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{I})$ | HAA5s <br> Annual Trailing <br> Average <br> $(\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{I})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| June, 2009 | Utilities Inc | 105 |  | 42 |  |
| September, 2009 | Utilities Inc | 120 |  | 68 |  |
| December, 2009 | Utilities Inc | 129 | 105.48 | 71 | 59.95 |
| March, 2010 | Pluris | 74.2 | 124.03 | 48 | 71.95 |
| June, 2010 | Pluris | 62.1 | 96.33 | 55.9 | 60.73 |
| September, 2010 | Pluris | 69.8 | 83.78 | 45.3 | 55.05 |

As can be seen in the table, since Pluris's acquisition of the utility, TTHMs and HAA5s' test result values on a quarterly basis were all under the MCL. The trailing 12 month average values were also dropping as a result of the
quarterly values. Pluris was in close communication with the FDEP through the post-acquisition period and represented to Ms. Barbara Browning with the FDEP that Pluris believed the trailing 12 month averages for TTHMs and HAA5s would likely drop to below the MCL values within four quarters following the MIEX improvements.

The HAA5s trailing average dropped below the MCL within 3 quarters and the TTHMs within 4 quarters. Reproduced in the following is an excerpt from Ms. Browning's email (received Friday, October 22, 2010 at 4:07 PM) acknowledging the TTHMs and HAA5s annual trailing averages had dropped below the MCLs and that FDEP was reducing the quarterly testing back to the annual standard.
"Dear Mr. Gallarda and all,
Thank you for the recent 10/7/10 total trilatomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids five (HAAS) results of anablses for Pluris-Wedgefield, PWSID\# 3480149. 10/7/IO TTHMs are $65.2 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{L}$ and HAA5s are 56.9 $\mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{L}$. Mr. Coffee, we just received the hard copy of results as well (thunks').

The new rumning anmual averages (RALAs) are $67.825 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{L}$ for TTHMAs anul $51.775 \mathrm{ng} / \mathrm{L}$ for HAA5s. (Our RAA HAA5s values differ slightly, possibly' due to a difference in significant figures - see cmail below.) The new RAAs do not exceed the maximum contaminumt levels (MCl.s) for the contaminams of 80 ag/L for TTHMs and $60 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{L}$ for HAAI5s. Public notification is not required.

Becunse ilse water system has 4 consecutive quarterly TTHM results below the MCL amd 4 consecutive quarterly HAAS results below the MCL from I/l0 through I2/IO, Wedgeffield may now' stop quarterly monitoring and return to routine (ammul) monitoring.....".

The FDEP was satisfied that Pluris had achieved compliance in regards to the TTHMs and HAA5s.

## Slide 39

The following table and text comments were presented as slide 39. The table is from Pluris's 2011 CCR.

| Contuminant and <br> Unit of <br> Mcasurement | Dates of sampling (ma/yr.) | MCL VIolatio n Y/N | Level Detected | Range of Revults | MCLG | MCL | L.ikely Source of Contamination |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Inorgank Contaminants |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nitrate fas Nitrogen) (ppm) | 5/11 | N | 0.183 | N/A | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use, Ieaching from septic tanks, sewage, crosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppril) | 5/11 | N | 73,7) | N/A | NA | 160 | Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil |
| Barium (ppm) | 5/11 | N | 0.0165 | N/A | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilliag wastes: discharge from metal refinerics: crosion of natural deposits |
| Chrornium (ppb) | 5/11 | N | 11.1 | N/A | 100 | 100 | Dischares from stecl and pulp mills: erosion of natural deposits |
| Fleoride (ppon) | 5/11 | N | $0.434$ | N/A | 4 | 4.0 | Erosion of natural deposits: discharge from lentilizer and aluminum factorics. Water additive which pronotes strong teeth when at optimurn levels betwsen 0.7 and 1.3 ppm |

Note the red circled item, almost half the allowable level
Note the green circled item, Fluoride. Important element but why is it so low, at half the optimum level? Because it costs money!

Mr. Mehochoko highlighted the Sodium and Fluoride results from the CCR. Pluris's Sodium level meets the FDEP requirements and Pluris adds that the City of Cocoa's 2011 CCR test result for Sodium level at $79.4 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{is} \mathrm{higher}$.

$$
9 \mid P a g e
$$

Mr. Mehochoko's assertion that the reason Fluoride is "so low" in Pluris's water ( $0.434 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{l}$ ) is "Because it costs money", demonstrates a lack of knowledge in utilities.

Additionally, Pluris would suggest Mr. Mehochoko review the 2011 CCRs for Orange County Utilities and confirm the range in fluoride for its six systems were between $0.22 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{and} 1.01 \mathrm{mg} /$, along with The City of Cocoa with a value of 0.57 mg .

## Slide 42

The following bullet points were presented as slide 42.
; NO BACKUP PLAN OR CAPABILITY FOR SECONDARY SUPPLY FEED
$\checkmark$ SINGLE POWER SOURCE BACKED UP BY SINGLE GENERATOR
$\checkmark$ SINGLE MAIN FEED WITH LIMITED ABILITY TO BYPASS A FAILED SUPPLY LINE THEREBY LIMITING THE OUTAGE TO THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF AFFECTED CUSTOMERS.

A letter was sent out to all customers explaining the events. A copy of that letter was forwarded to the PSC staff as well. Summarizing the information again here;

1. In accordance with FDEP requirements, there is a secondary power source to the primary electrical feed. The secondary system is a permanent onsite generator that is exercised weekly in accordance with the FDEP requirements. The generator had been exercised and ran the 1 hour per week test period flawlessly. The generator did shut off when the power company disconnected the transformer due to over-heating for 15 minutes. Onsite personnel discovered the problem to be a fuel valve and repaired it. The generator started back up and has had no problems.
2. The "By-pass" comment is believed to be addressing system isolation valves. As discussed in the information piece the isolation valves are exercised and unfortunately two failed during the outage. The valves have been replaced with new ones and PSC staff was onsite to observe the actual replacement of one of the two valves. Both were replaced and Pluris does not anticipate a system wide outage resulting from the valves.

## Slide 46

The following bullet points were presented as slide 46 .

- ANOTHER MEASURE OF WATER QUALITY IS "WATER HARDNESS" OR THE MEASURE DISSOLVED SUBSTANCES. THIS QUANTITY IS RATHER HIGH AS EVIDENCED BY THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS THAT HAVE INSTALLED WATER SOFTENERS (AT THEIR OWN COST).

The subject of hardness was addressed above and it is reiterated here that the water in the wells prior to softening at the plant averages 4.4 grains per gallon. Following softening the values are averaging 2.47 grains per gallon. Hardness was fested at a number of the customers who spoke at the customer meeting and all were surprised at the test results.

## Slide 47

The following bullets are presented as slide 47.
; NEWLY IMPLEMENTED VOICE BROADCASTING/ROBO-CALL
$\checkmark \quad$ ONLY ABOUT 30\% OF CUSTOMERS HAVE RESPONDED.

- Pluris refused to give the WHOA their customer address database to assist with encouraging timely response
> CALL CENTER NOT MANNED BY PLURIS EMPLOYEES
$\checkmark \quad$ No direct contact or supervision by Pluris
$;$ DISCOURTEOUS SERVICE
$\checkmark \quad$ Lack of direct contact causes slow and inaccurate information to spread
$\checkmark \quad$ Call center operators have no direct responsibility to provide timely and accurate information, so they are not held responsible for their actions.

1. The first bullet is inaccurate as previously discussed above. Also, Pluris did refuse to provide WHOA as also previously discussed above.
2. The second bullet is untrue. There are presently five (5) call center staff employed by Pluris Holdings, LLC in its call center located in North Carolina. There will be two additional call center employees starting December 31, 2012. One was hired with bi-lingual skills to meet the increasing needs of Hispanic customers. The Director of Customer Care, Ms. Beverly Yopp is housed in the call center and provides day to day supervision of the staff.
3. The $3^{\text {rd }}$ bullet was found to be partially true with the afterhours $3^{\text {rd }}$ party message service used to answer and forward messages the next moming to the call center. Pluris terminated the company and is using the same company which has been used in North Carolina. There have been no reports of the message group being discourteous to Pluris since replacing the former company.

As a result of the outage Pluris's regional manager, Mr. Joe Kuhns will script a written message for the afterhour's staff as well as the Pluris call center staff during normal business hours to read to customers who call in. Mr. Kuhns will provide on-going updated scripts. Pluris has elected to not use the VBS in the middle of the night based on customer comments. The VBS shall not be used during the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM EST so as to not wake up customers.

## Slide 51

The following bullets are presented as slide 51 .
r NEEDS CONSTANT MAINTENANCE

- CURRENT 10 YEAR PLAN MAY NEVER OCCUR UNLESS A PENALTY SYSTEM FOR NON-COMPLIANCE IS PUT IN PLACE
; NO PLAN DIVULGED TO CUSTOMER BASE FOR IMPROVEMENT
- THE SO CALLED 10 YEAR PLAN HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE CUSTOMER BASE NOR IS IT OPEN FOR COMMENT.
- NO SHORT TERM PLAN IS EVEN MENTIONTIONED!
- NO FULLY REDUNDANT POWER SOURCE (SINGLE POWER FEED)
; SINGLE DIESEL POWER PLANT FOR BACKUP
- HAS ANYONE HEARD OF UPS/BATTERY BACKUP?

Pluris conducts normal maintenance on both the water and wastewater utilities in accordance with the requirements of the FDEP. The FDEP requires Pluris to have two (2) full time State of Florida certified operators in the wastewater utility and two (2) in the water utility.

Pluris management, in its voluntary customer meeting after the acquisition was asked about the sewer pipelines and the question was in regards to inflow and infiltration ("\$\&|"). $\mid \$ 1$ is a challenge in all utilities as $1 \& 1$ in a collection system can increase the amount of treated wastewater. At that meeting Pluris explained that its annual goal is to line clean and TV up to $10 \%$ of the sewer lines. The $10 \%$ is in line with the utility industry. By doing $10 \%$ a year, it takes 10 years to go through the system and this is reasonable and prudent. A Pluris Vactor truck recently concluded the annual work in Wedgefield.

Pluris believes Mr. Mehochoko is referencing the meeting comments with what he is calling the 10 year plan. Regarding capital investment, Pluris uses a "reasonable and prudent" approach, which is a regulatory requirement in the utility industry. Mr. Mehochoko may not be aware that any capital investment approved by the PSC is subject to Pluris earning a retum on the investment. Pluris has the ability to replace all water forcemain pipelines in Wedgefield but does not believe it to be reasonable and prudent on behalf of customers.

As a result of Mr. Mehochoko's inquiry, Pluris is requesting an engineer's report for replacing all of the water distribution pipelines in Wedgefield. The potential financial impact of replacing the pipeline at once will be material to customers on their monthly bills.

Regarding redundant power, this has been addressed in a previous section. Pluris meets the FDEP requirements.
Regarding "UPS/Battery backup", Pluris already has this for the computers and SCADA system at the plant. UPS/battery backup is not designed for power back up to water treatment plant motors and pumps.

## Slide 60

Mr. Mehochoko provided the following comment and table as slide 60;
"Note that Pluris already has the highest BASE RATES (\$23.39) in the STATEI And they are asking for yet another rate increase!"

| Water/Wastewater Monthly Bill Comparisons Residential Seivice December 31, 2011 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Utility | Water |  |  |  |  | Wastervater |  |  |  |
|  | $\frac{\mathrm{Min}}{\mathrm{Gan}} .$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Base } \\ & \text { Rase } \end{aligned}$ | Gallonage Rave Per M | Bili Comparisons |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Base } \\ & \text { Rate } \end{aligned}$ | Gallougye Rate Per 3 | Marimum Gallonage | Madmum Charge |
|  |  |  |  | SI | IOM |  |  |  |  |
| Orapge Counc |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  <br>  |  | 380.: | 5 sc | 375 | s.e. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | STSO | stm | \$4.3 | $53 \times 6$ |  |  |  |  |
| Oaks sries.lle |  | Sus | Six | 519.40 | 5 sume |  |  |  |  |
| Farie Thelombe. <br>  |  | \% 18 | ser | 5193 | 5050 | sam | 518 | 108 | 593\% |
| Teationtac.atimide <br>  |  | s43 | ser | sus | 518 |  |  |  |  |

The relative cost of water is not relevant to the rate case as rates are based on capital investment and operating expenses incurred by utilities.

Even so, Mr. Mehochoko's comment is not true; nor are the additional comments expressed at the customer meeting, that Pluris is the most expensive water in the state of Florida. In the following Pluris presents a table listing just 15 utilities in Florida, along with their water and wastewater base and gallonage rates respective monthly bill for 5,000 gallons of use.

All of the utilifies with the exception of Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. are govemment owned utilities.

| Various Waler and Wastewater Base and Gallonage Rates and Monthly Bill Calculation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Uuility Information |  |  | Water Bill Portion |  |  |  | Wastewater Bill Portion |  |  | Monthly Combined Water \& Wastewater Bill | Ranking |
| Uuility | Population <br> andlor <br> Customers Served | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Taifl } \\ & \text { Date } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ase Rate } \\ & \text { (Water) } \end{aligned}$ | Gallonage rate per 1,000 galions at 5,000 gallons per month | Caiculated <br> Monthly bill at <br> 5,000 gallons (Water) | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Base Rate } \\ \text { (Sever) } \end{array}$ | Gollonage rate per 1,000 gallons at 5,000 gallons per monlh | Calculated <br> Monthly bill at <br> 5,000 gallons <br> (Sewen) | Catrulated Total Combined Monally Bill a25,000 gallons for both Whter and Sewer | From Highest to Lovest in Descending Order (1-15) |
| Colonial Mance | 675 | 1022012 |  | 20.90 | \$ 7.61 | \$ 58.95 | MA | Na | NA | MA | 1 |
| Lindick | 3.000 | 1022012 | 5 | 904 | \$ 600 | 5 3904 | \$ 29.83 | $5 \quad 12.50$ | $5 \quad 9233$ | 513137 | 2 |
| Qiyol Detions | 85.000 | 10312012 | 5 | 11.0 | \$ 1.65 | \$ 19.25 | \$ 33.39 | \$ 14.80 | $5 \quad 107.54$ | 5 12679 | 3 |
| Giyol Coldergste | 3500 | 10172012 | 5 | 2597 | \$ 587 | S 5532 | \$ 33.38 | \$ 675 | S $\quad 67.18$ | 5 122.50 | 1 |
| Floida Kepsfuduct Authoris | 73,000 | 5172012 | 5 | 1327 | § 557 | S 41.12 | $5 \quad 20.72$ | \% 10.11 | S 7727 | s 11839 | 5 |
| CayolfortMers | 63.512 | 10112012 | 5 | 11.47 | \$ 563 | \$ 39.52 | $5 \quad 15.52$ | \$ $\quad 10.96$ | \$ 70.32 | $5 \quad 109.98$ | 6 |
| Ciyol Lehigh Acres | 12000 | 10112012 | 5 | 14.42 | \$ 528 | S 40.52 | \$ 24.23 | \$ 834 | S 6593 | \$ 106.75 | 7 |
| Cityol Mercolsand | 15000-40,000 | 1212012 | 5 | 35.25 | \$ 275 | S 4901 | $5 \quad 18.91$ | \$ 721 | 5 54.55 | 5 103.97 | 8 |
| Nath FortMers | 12,000 | 1042012 | 5 | 11.21 | \$ 6.60 | S 44.21 | $5 \quad 1588$ | \$ 7.37 | $5 \quad 52.74$ | \$ 96.95 | 9 |
| CayolCape Coral | 157,000 | 101/2112 | S | 1605 | \$ 3.61 | \$ $\quad 34.10$ | $5 \quad 19.52$ | \$ 8.37 | $5 \quad 61.37$ | 5 95.47 | 10 |
| Sewen Springs | 16.400 | 10132012 | 5 | 1301 | S 6.26 | $5 \quad 4433$ | ¢ 20.56 | $5 \quad 5.02$ | S 45.66 | \$ 69.97 | 11 |
| Civor Tituribe | 43,800 | 101/2012 | S | 8.55 | \$ 277 | \$ 22.41 | ¢ 1259 | \$ 10.72 | \$ 65.19 | S 8860 | 12 |
| Pris Wedgateld | 1.600 | 11/12012 | \$ | 2339 | \$ 4.04 | $5 \quad 4359$ | \$ 21.07 | \$ 382 | \$ 4017 | \$ 8376 | 13 |
| Ciyd Cocos | 17,000 | 10112012 | § | 13.89 | \$ 289 | \$ 2834 | § 1526 | \$ 724 | 51.46 | $5 \quad 79.80$ | 14 |
| Sansela County | 382.000 | 9112012 |  | 14.23 | 52.4 | \$ 27.07 | \$ 1489 | S 7.54 | \$ 52.59 | $5 \quad 79.66$ | 15 |

Plunis is ranked $13^{\text {th }}$ out of just these 15 presented and Pluris discontinued listing additional systems.
There would undoubtedly be more government and/or privately owned systems with higher costs for water and wastewater than Pluris.

In summary, Pluris has provided the above responses in accordance with the request of the PSC and should there be the need for additional information, please contact us.


Maurice W. Gallarda, PE
Managing Member and Principal Engineer
Cc: Martin Friedman
Kenneth Pratt
Beverly Yopp
Joe Kuhns

## From:

Maurice Gallarda [mgallarda@plurisusa.com]
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Attachments:

Monday, January 21, 2013 12:36 PM
James McRoy
avanesse@psc.state.fl.us; Bart Fletcher (BFletche@PSC.STATE.FL.US); Joe Kuhns; Kenneth Pratt: Dan Winters; Martin Friedman; Tina Odisho Customer Comments Follow up - Final
Customer Comments Wedgefield - Final 121131026AM.x|sx

Hello Mr. McRoy.
Attached is a copy of the follow up record for the customers who spoke at the customer meeting, as well as other customers during the lime spent in meetings at homes in Wedgefield. I believe Pluris has completed all that it can at this point. Pluris cannol speak on behalf of the customers but believes that all customers' original thinking was impacted by the information provided during the follow up.

Pluris spent considerable time in explaining the regulatory relationship between Pluris and the FDEP and the various requirements of the FDEP in regulating the quality of both drinking water and wastewater. Comparisons were provided (Consumer Confidence Reports) to all showing the quality of the water in Wedgefield and other governmental owned utilities including the City of Cocoa, Orlando Utilities Commission and Orange Utilities.

The single greatest revelation to all customers was that the water in Wedgefield is not hard as customers had thought and that even so. the water is sottened at the plant. Hardness tests were conducted at all the homes who requested and in the presence of the customer. Pressure was also tested at each home that requested this and Mr. Chiota who spoke of low pressure in his home realized it was not Pluris's service line to his home but his interior plumbing he had completed.

Pluris had two residents present for the monthly bacteriological sampling in January and both were unaware of the FDEP approving the 8 sampling sites within the system to test. Both customers witnessed the sampling and had no further comment when specifically asked regarding the FDEP protocol in sampling. Both stated to Mr. Kuhns that Pluris had followed the FDEP protocol. Both were invited to attend every month if they would like to and Mr. Maslowski (the customer who claimed his water would turn brown in his shower in the customer meeting (and recanted that stalement after investigating his shower - see his comments and letter)) agreed to do 6 months of witnessing the sampling. Mr. Maslowski at the end of his investigation stated that the water in Wedgefield is as good as Cocoa's, Orlando Utilities Commission's and Orange County Utilities' in his letter.

Please review each and every one of the comments, letters and emails provided.
Pluris spent significant effort in reaching out to all of the customers and non-customers. to meet with each and discuss their concerns. Not all responded to Pluris's attempt to reach but all were reached out to. Even Mr. Mehochko was contacted a number of times to get together with him and he did not respond to schedule a convenient time for him. Aiter a number of factual information was provided including the Consumer Confidence Reports with actual laboratory test data for Wedgefield, Cocoa. Orange County Uiilities and Orlando Utility Commission, Pluris can only assume most of his points made in his PowerPoint presentation were answered.

Please let us know if there is any further action the PSC requires of Pluris in this regard. Hard copies of the spreadsheet are being bound and sent to you.
Sincerely,
Maurice Gallarda

Maurice W. Galiarda, PE

Managing Member and Principal Engineer

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting an November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Emall | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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| Pen Venocriso HOA Fiesident | 1sesa Ountey Psow. Cracso FL | C $207.701 \cdot 3468$ 407.560 .0602 | ramenochis emasering con | Nol a curbmer of Pirs Wedgetela Recommond mots oculest and sors at Exis | Joe Kurns consacted Mr Mehociko of welechone in the aternoon of TMursday, 12.2012 to schedise 8 mectmg with him Mr. Mehochko could not meet pis week and agreed <br>  and Mr Mehoctiko agreed of send a copy to Mr Kutins. Mr. Kutns sem Mr. Mehoctho an emal conliming the conversation Mr. Wehocthon emailed a copy of his PowerPoint to Mr Kuhns on Thursday. Decembet 20,2012 ar $3: 51$ PM EST. Mr. Kums has made every eflort to reach Mr. Mehochko (including the two emalk reproduced below) to <br>  meet <br> Frone jus \#ian on <br>  <br>  <br> Sulyest Fev Mortis <br> Fen <br>  <br>  <br> inex ith MI Me eilum <br>  ```Frim jod mirn```  ```fo Mren. Jubut "erting Goos hang lick am Or M```  ```actoustap Thates fimepta yl bestans```  |
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| Vetor Nutura HOA D Dectis |  | 507.560 .0129 5.207536 .5952 | Penceregral com | Corcus whi he HOA powepont presertaton pe Inot a customer of Pure Wedgelietof |  <br>  nhe Poweporly meseresion |
| Benca Tartam | 20661 Meremands | $\begin{gathered} 207.568 .7782 \\ C-407.625 \cdot 2625 \end{gathered}$ | tiocat larsumiticas nel | Agreed nel Hox presenticer concent wire <br>  Buden for vacent hotes, steded was bied high Lenge in 2010 to mee reang ssue fecrot renton crect ct \$296 \$1 zal she wes guention suet | Jee Kurs ree win Mes Tanturnion 12.13 a: 200 PM EST. Topics docussed were water usage end water qualcy. Mss Ta-burn agrees wer ine amourt of weter usage noweves. can <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  sucbied to her to reterence M. K.Ans bet resdence at 345 Pu EST |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Phuris Wedgetield Follow up |
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| vaterebin | 2063 smemens. | 5007.512 .410 $0-407.625780$ | mencersteatsicon | Powerocint presentation Concems stated $21 / 2$ toid hod tmo ouring Sepr oclage: pn ang ctione levis $n$ water, compared fretes to othe lrites such as OCO and Oveda, letd does nol know whete vakes are. Warted cosy ef neler queliy recort Ojestions on meter calitraton. |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  Fimener weh a copy of me bench tes report ina was conducted $n$ Docertes, 2011 <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> To: Jor Kuhns <br>  <br>  <br> Thanks <br> Whteh Baum <br>  <br> "Mr. Kuhns wan wery well preparped to divoniss my innernct perceptions and provided the factual data to hach up die satements with accurate and <br>  <br>  |
| Aves locker | 20463 uense | 207.568 .5200 C. 221.391 .404 |  | Conct the a'e rates ase too hist ant wetor guecy noeds moroverent |  <br>  |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefleld, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Foilow up |
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| Deramem kem | 2612 nodey Auc | 26972.7640 207.429099 | neswoanobermacem |  Fites One corcens swec sos um n weet. no <br>  |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  |
| apecorcis | 2200 encenem | 207.5688006 437.509.1315 | ecruaenthicm |  <br>  Ferssion nione wiex wey ines are routed toris. nome. He verss me Vos labe wese 24 nis a cit <br>  questons reacele wotwier He cose havid nater sotere: |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  EST <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  when wes 38' n dance. <br>  <br>  wownp robery locctivet mese fon cancer <br>  <br>  <br>  |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012


Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Kearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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| Ycrual Mosos | 3298 cocome | 207.638885 | maimmocy me |  |  zhedo a meang Co <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Emall | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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| Sinmerd liy Civimen | 20115 Lb cen Promy | 407.568. 1038 407.332 .9066 | maryenderenegraicom | Stuted ilvers has bad witer and Cocea hes pood weles and a facticy rlose by -why cant they youde wither |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  <br>  <br>  <br>  servior dept and thery are critravely Aelpful, eypecially Bererty Yigh <br>  <br>  |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Foflow up |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vcruel Dugar | 20005 Hejede St | $\begin{gathered} 307.694 \cdot 1980 \\ 321.202 .5392 \\ 321.251 \cdot 7766 \text { AW0 } \end{gathered}$ | Esegers9eyarco com | Wote culliy concens. Sated in liow 2011 te had clowly wete and conticee DEP weter mas troke tung testrg and Mas to be toglaced in Sept e! 2012 wes nomme of righ wape and hat olurte crock - Hound no issues. Sated meter was nsofrectly rad from micter reshcemen ate to Sepserber <br> (B Yoep commest <br> 1. Dugar de net gate that me ase wes ressived and he was provided es $\$ 00$ credt atheugh (weas nol wartarted) |  <br>  <br>  <br>  preserced mmocatoly belon <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> Serc Wec exaty. Decmbe 19, 2012::10 AM <br> sutioct Pina Wigetic <br> Helo Me. Dugyit, <br>  <br>  <br> scheovie te the tis beconverient le you <br> Prose ief me how wien you mg'l be ardable. <br> Thark you <br> Marice Gullarda <br>  <br> Sert monescary, Decenoer 19, 2012157 AM <br> Ta Havice Gezurds <br>  <br> Ar Gatards. <br>  <br>  rat mewt be a frutless mocavort <br> Aespectily. <br> Mctael L Duggar |
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Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgafield, Inc. Customers Who Spake at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
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| Customers Who Did Not Speak at Customer Meeting but Pluris Met With |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Pel Octan 8 Dancl Doten | 20343 Maccon Pxay | 407.376-3766 | pat chelanelestrach ne | Herees of mate and mie nerase |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  |
| Mcred madice Brons | 2207 Acter |  |  | Witer quatry tole stives and cates peng up |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  |
| Mchael jornson | 2405 Acter | C. 207.5791387 M. $321.250-3423$ | my/288enosoun ree | Weter quaty, wer mures encorese porjup |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  A cooy al the leter res seen lied wa re PSC. |
| Frank Cisme | 2034 3 Ucon Pxwy |  |  | Matressel were |  <br>  <br>  <br>  |

Follow up to the 24 Pluris Wedgefield, Inc. Customers Who Spoke at Customer Meeting on November 5, 2012

| Name | Address | Telephone | Email | Comments at Customer Hearing | Pluris Wedgefield Follow up |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sverstaste | 285 Eusichur | $407.56 \cdot 1147$ | ceepeceacan |  |  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  Purs tor towedng to the PSC niegtrs to the mecting The leser is dated 12 if 12 end a copy of the letter was cmated so at. Jamos McPoy wh the FSC and abo fiad whit the PSC con |

Dear Mr. Kuhns,

I was very pleased with the items we discussed and the clarification you provided. I am reassured that the issues I had expressed have been recognized and action is being taken to correct any deficiencies I noted.

Based on your notes, and email following our meeting of January 2, 2013, l'll provide you with my comments:

- Independent bench tests of Meters used for Customer billing.

Mr. Kulns provided me with paperwork from Pluris' independent meter bench test company. Mars Company ("Mars") is recognized by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, a federal agency and that they (Mars) comply with American Water Works Association ("AWWA") policies and procedures for the proper bench calibration/comparison test of meters. I agrced to provide you the additional paperwork, certificate of calibration, from Mars that will show that Mars has the proper calibration records for their bench meter that is used to calibrate/compare Pluris' meters.

My desire is that when a customer states that a water meter is suspected of being out of calibration, that Pluris supply the results of the "Mars" testing showing the serial number of the meter identified by the customer along with the above documentation.

- Annual Consumer Confidence Report ("CCR").

We discussed the procedure that is used to complete the annual CCR in that although there are many constituents tested and analyzed yearly, only those detected during the analytical process are required to be entered on the CCR. We also discussed that the CCR is a report that is generated from a template that originates from the Florida Rural Water Association ("FRWA") and is thoroughly reviewed and approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation ("FDEP") before it is delivered to our customers.

The CCR is indeed in compliance with FDEP requirements, but I suggest that a statement be inchuded that states: "Although the testing is for the (mumber of tested contaninants) only those that were detectable are reported here. Those constituent of the water that were below the maximum sensitivity of the test laboratory are not show here."

- Hydrogen Sulfide presence.

Mr. Kuhns discussed that hydrogen sulfide is naturally present in water originating from the Florida aquifer that Pluris also pumps from and that the concentration of hydrogen
sulfide can and will vary from different areas. We discussed that the prior owner used the existing aeration trays located at the top of the ground storage tank to disperse of the hydrogen sulfide due to hydrogen sulfide being a volatile vapor. Mr. Kuhns explained that the Magnetic lon Exchange ("MIEX ") process at the water treatment removes about $95 \%$ of the hydrogen sulfide and that Pluris is investigating the installation of a filter that may be used in conjunction with aeration trays to remove remaining hydrogen sulfide that may be present. This minimal residual of hydrogen sulfide vapor is what may sometimes be noticed in water that is not circulated that often and especially water from the hot water heater.

Hydrogen sulfide dissolved in the water is a problem in the region as well as most of the southeastern United States. I am aware of the current conditions and would like to be informed as to when the proposed and mentioned aeration system is placed back into operation. May I suggest that Pluris take the opportumity to be proactive and make a public amouncement that this additional effort has been completed. The value of this effort would then tend to convey that Pluris has reacted to the customer base's concerns in a positive maner and prior to a future complaint.

- Valve location(s) and exercising program.

Mr. Kuhns discussed that Pluris staff does indeed know the exact location of each valve within the distribution system. Each valve is exercised, at a minimum, annually as is required by the FDEP. Records are kept of the valve exercising.

My suggestion is that Phuris take the time to educate Phuris' sub-contractors that they are the face of Pluris when performing work on the system and that they should ahwas strive to present a professional and knowledgeable attitude. I any situation where they don't have an answer, refer all inquiries to Phuts employees or management.

- pH readings.

Mr. Kuhns discussed the pH readings that Pluris staff obtains using a meter that is calibrated daily by a known standard. Typical readings are between 7.4 and 7.6 . It was discussed that you had obtained your readings using a pool test kit and that the pool test kits should not be used to provide an accurate reading. FDEP requires all utilities to calibrate meters used for reporting purposes to be calibrated daily to a known standard.

My informal tests were in fact uncalibrated and not intended to be a substitute for callibrated tests. I was made aware that a reading of 7.4 to 7.6 is a nominal value and should not be cause for concern.

- Hardness and relation to corrosion and/scaling.

During our conversation it was discovered that I had thought the Ploris Wedgefield water was a "hard" water and very corrosive. Mr. Kuhns discussed that the water when it is pumped from the Florida Aquifer averages about 4.4 grains per gallon in hardness. This falls within the "moderately hard" category as illustrated on a hardness chart such as the
one we reviewed together. Pluris softens the water from the wells at the water treatment plant to approximately 2.2 grains per gallon, which is in the "slightly hard" category as illustrated on the hardness chart.

I was unaware of the actual hardness as measured, but made an assumption based on personal observation of the character of the scale left behind that the water was far more "hard" than it has been tested against known standards. From my conversation with Mr. Kuhns, I find my assumption of "very hard" water was in fact erroneous. Mr: Kulins provided factual and accurate data support by calibrated test that went a long way 10 reversing my initial perceptions.

We then reviewed a chart that illustrated a relationship between pH and Alkalinity and confirmed that Pluris' water is not corrosive.

- Conclusions

Mr. Kuhns was very well prepared to dismiss my incorrect perceptions and provided the factual data to back up the statements with accurate and scientifically valid measurements. Mr. Kulms was very knowledgeable in all areas that had initially been of great concern to me. His explanations were thorough and well presented. I can sometimes be rather skeptical, but Mr: Kuhns was patient and informative as well as sincere. I can safely say that I an satisfied that Pluris has taken positive actions to address my concerns without taking an adversarial position, but rather taking the time to address each of my concerns in a positive light. I highly commend Mi: Kuhns for his actions in this situation.

Very truly yours,


Mitchel K. Baum
20625 Nettleton St.
Orlando, FL 32833

December 1.3. 2013
Mr. James Meroy
State of Flurida Puble Servies Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Onk Boulevard
Tallahnssee, IL 32399.0850
Re: Phris Wedgetiold, Ine. Custoner Service
Dear Mr. MciRoy.
My mane is Pat Clellan. I share my home wits ny sister and brother-in-law, Susm \& Darrell Dotson, who is the oficint Pluris customer. We were anable to attend the customer hearing on Pluris but we would like our conments to be added to the public record regarding Pluris's customer service. This leter is a follow up to the email I sem you on December $5^{\text {th }}, 2012$.

Like most consumers we do not like rate increases. But my background in telccommunications gives me the understanding that any rate inerease for Puris will be determined ather the investigation by the FPSC. My family and I are hopefil that the FPSC will weigh all the bets and cone to a conclusion that will be in the best interest or all parlics.

We were ectainly not happy with he water outage in November. But realistically, old pipes break, onages happen, hopetully only on rare occasions. When and if they do the response mod resulution make a big difference. And we nusf give crelit to the Pluris team for both.
When we called the customer sevice line the call center agents were conteous and calm. Wy sister and I both hate extensise call center experience so we know how hard it is to deal with angry customer in crisis sifuations.
I alsn received a call back from the repair team with status of the repair, details of the issue, and approximate time for water restoral. And since I walk my dog in the neighborhood close to the break I saw the crew working well into the evening to get the water flowing again. All of us were very glad that water was restored belore the Thankgiving Iloliday, We also received phone calls through the voice broadeasling system announcements which are great improvencon and much appreciated. And my fumily was pleasanty surprised by the mexpected inconventence credit we received after this ontage. Sometimes customers who pay on time every momh feel a lithe forgoten sincu we have litle regular contact with the call center.

The level of personal service extends from the call center staft to the fied persomel, to top management. Mr. Joe Kuhs, the loal regional manager here, called, emailed me, and scheduled a mocting with my broher-inlaw. Dartell and me in our home. Mr. Maurice Gallarda, the managing member and principal engineer for Pluris attended with Mr. Kuhn. Since I work during the day they accommodated my schedule and met after hours.
They arrived at 5:13 PVi on Wednesday December $12^{\text {th }}$ and tested the water. The test resulss showed no need for the water softener the builder stated was necessary whon our home was completed in 2003. Mr Kums explained that the water is actually soltened at the plant. This is very valuable news since it will result in monthly cost savings for water used to backwash, electicity, and satt for the home water solhener. In addition it allevates the enviromental. health, and home applianee repair issues the added salt creates.
At the end of their visil both gentlemen gave us their cards and the option to call either of them anytime if we ned tuther assistance. My brother-in-law nod I both folt they wem above and beyond to build our confidence in Pluris and its commiment to us and our community.


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Goe 'kulan is ones regisinal manopgev.




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December 13, 2012
Mr. James McRoy
State of Florida Public Services Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
Dear Mr. McRoy,
My name is Michael Johnson and I live at 2405 Archer Blvd, Orlando, FL 32833 in Wedgefield. I couid not be at the meeting on Pluris but wanted to get my comments about Pluris in the record.

I am writing to you about the level of customer service that I have received from Pluris. I have been very happy with the service. I was not happy with the water outage just before Thanksgiving but I am a long time facility technician, repair plumber, and HVAC/R service technician. Also I understand that the pipes here date back to the 1960 s and can break from being old. Pluris did a good job insuring that water was not interrupted on Thanksgiving Day and their crews worked through the night to make that happen.

I thought the voice broadcasting system announcement updates were a great way to be kept updated through the precautionary boil water notice period.

Mr. Gallarda the head of Pluris called me several times to discuss the outages and explain what had happened. I must admit that I have never had someone that high up in a utility call me personally. Mr. Gallarda asked if he and Joe Kuhns, a regional manager for Pluris here could stop by and meet with me about my water softener that 1 have had for years. They came by on the $11^{1{ }^{\text {h }}}$ of December after hours to accommodate my schedule.

Mr. Kuhns stated that the water was not hard here in Wedgefield and that I did not need a water softener that the water treatment plant already softens the water. Mr. Kuhns and Mr. Gallarda tested the water at my tap in the kitchen after I soften the water and then tested the water outside before the softener in my house. As a result of the testing I realize that I do not need to use the water softener. Because of Pluris" visit to my home I can save on costs related to the salt for the water softener and on the amount of water used in the softener.

I think Pluris goes above and beyond what is expected of a utility and that they don't get enough credit here in the development.

Respectfully


Date: 1/18/13
Name: Michael Moody
Address: 2529 AlbionAve, Orlando, FL 32833
I have been a customer of pluris Utilities here in the Wedgefield Community Since August of 2010. I was at the PSC hearing to protest the rate increase that was being requested, and I touched on a number of different aspectss but the one that I didn't comment ons Customer Service, I wish to address now.

I struggle from paycheck to paycheck due to health issuess and my wife is trying to support us on her owns working two jobs, so as many times as not, I have had trowble paying our water bill. More than $50 \%$ of the time I have had to go well beyond the amount of time that is usually given to pay the bill. Beverley Yopp and her cress have been extremely understanding and patient with me, and have always granted me as much time as I needed to pay my water bill without criticizing or making me plead, especially after I had been a customer for a while, and showed that I will pay the bill, just not always on time. I probably call customer Service more than most, because every month is rough, and I try to keep them informed about the payment of my bill.

When I first became a customer, I had problems with a couple rude people, but Beverly has rooted out the rude personels, and taken care of the situation. Now, for the past 2 years (approximately) when I call about my bill, the people who are there are very courteous and pleasant, and very helpful and understanding, probably more so than most companies. Because of their understanding and compassion, I have never had my water shut off, and I don't even get the dreaded doorknob hanger regarding my bill, which I am very grateful for. And believe me, there were times when they probably should have turned it off, but didn't.

When I was at the PSC meeting here in Wedgefield, I listened to the complaints that the people were addressing, and I must say in all fairness, that I agreed with many of them, but when it came to Customer Service, I waskind of suprised by what I heard, as I have not experienced any of the problems that were stated. It may have been that people were either talking about a time period before Pluris took over, or immediately following their take over, before Beverly had the chance to get her department up to speed. Whatever the reason, I must say that contacting Customer Service at Pluris is every bit as good an experiencer as any other corporation, if not even slightly better.

Although I am still very doggedly against the rate increase, I want to commend and thank Beverly for her kindness, understanding, and patience with me, as well as the rest of her crew, especially Ericka. Whatever the
problems with pluris, I don't believe that there is much fault with the Customer Service Department. It seems to be consistently improving in my humble opinton.

So, while there may be problems with other parts of the company, I firmly believe that Beverly Yopp and her crew should be commended for a job well done. And a very difficult job it is whenever yow have to deal with the public.

Sincerely,

Michael Moody
407-963-8855

## FROM THE DESK OF SHIRLAND LEADER

2852 BALLARDAV

ORLANDO F132833

DECEMBER 172012

PLURIS HOLOINGS LLC
2100 MCKINNEY AV

SUITE 1.5 .50

DALLAS,TX 75201

SIR/MADAM,
I am writing to let you know of the experience I recently had with you Compony and the compassion it showed in light of the of a serlous problem that l experlenced with a sewer beckup and the cose to undo it. The event could not hove happened at a worse ime, with visitors around. Anyway on November 11 in the pon we discovered this bockup ond the locai sewer cleoning services was called.

The tech showed up ot apprax 11:000m ond started working on the problem. He worked unill 5:30 pm and no rellef was found. He came back the following day with additional help and before long discovercd the problem was located in the street where my line connected with connected to Pluris' moin llne. I Immediately went to your yord and found one of your employecs, Larry who immedlarely came to see what was hoppening.

He then determined that with additional proof Plurls would pay for the job. There was a change af heart the following Frlday when Larry showed up with another employee cousing me ro write to Mr joe Kuhns. I was very glad to see your monogement personnel. Mr kuhans ond Mr M. Gollorgo show up on Dec 11 with the good news thot Plurls would pay for the repalrs which wos very clase to a thousond dollors this close to Christmas.

I can tell you it changed iny holiday plons. It was indeed a blessing as this bill would have hampered our plans as we are retlred and on flxed incomes. 1 am living in wedgefield for more than wenty year, and they have been trouble free years. Until recent there were no shut offs and my relotionship has ahways been favorable with Plurls, ollhough not io happy with an increase in cost, hopefully it will be with compossion in mind as we are mostly oll retired on on fixed incomes. And this kind act shows thot Corporations also hove heorts of compassion and could work with the consumer to ochleve harmony ond pogetherness to a common gool.

Thonks agoin and moy GOD bless your Corp.

## 20248 Marion St.

Orlando, FL32833
407-568-4264

To whom it may concern:
On December 5,2012 lattended a meeting at the wedge field country club that was being conducted by the Florida Public service commission (FPSC). The purpose of the meeting was for the customers of PLURIS Utlities Wed field inc to address their concerns for the quality of the water and their position as to a proposed rate increase.

During the above meeting I made a small presentation and stated that the water was causing a stain in my shower. My shower has a very white grout around the tiles, the grout belng lower than the tile, water tended to deposit in the lower grout areas thus causing those areas to be darker in color. With PLURIS management assistance we determined that the water in fact was not stalning the grout, but because the grout was latex base grout and lower than the tile, residue water was causing the appearance of a stain. Therefore, the quality of the water was not staining my shower grout.

It also should be noted that I have spent many hours with several PLURIS employees comparing our water (PLURIS) to Cocoa utlities, Orange County utilities and Orlando utilites. The comparisons were testing, water quality, noncompliance and compliance. Based on the Information that I looked at and talking with DEP (Barbara Browning) the PLURIS water is in compliance with EPA standards/ DEP testing results. It also should be noted our water is at least as good as the other three utlitles.

Sincerely
Walter E Maslowski


February 1, 2013

## Dear Pluris Wedgefield Customer,

Pluris continues to provide safe drinking water and presented in the following table is a summary of most recent monthly test results by the Florida state certified testing laboratory (Tri-Tech Analytical Laboratories, Inc. in Orlando; Florida Department of Health \#E83294). All 8 of the samples passed, coming back absent of any coliform.

| Bacteriological Sampling and Testing Results |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sampling Date | Sampling Point | Bacteriologic Test Result |
| 7 -Jan-13 | Pluris Well \#1 | 0 |
| 7 -Jan-13 | Pluris Well \#2 | 0 |
| 7-Jan-13 | 2333 Archer Blvd | 0 |
| 7-Jan-13 | 2530 Alabaster Avenue | 0 |
| 8-Jan-13 | 2654 Abney Avenue | 0 |
| 8-Jan-13 | 2873 Glen Elm Way | 0 |
| 8-Jan-13 | 3019 Lellore Lane | 0 |
| 8-Jan-13 | 2228 Abalone Bivd | 0 |

Two of the samples are from the water wells Pluris receives its water from before entering the water treatment plant and the other six samples are taken from locations selected by Pluris operations staff and approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("FDEP"). Sample locations are selected and approved by the FDEP to insure a representative sampling within the water distribution system.

In this last sampling, two Wedgefield customers were present tor the sampling to observe the FDEP protocol in obtaining the samples including the manifesting (written log from the point of sampling to the laboratory signed by all persons).

Pamela DiMarzio along with Walter Maslowski attended the first sampling conducted on Monday, January 7, 2013 and Walter Maslowski attended the sampling on the second day of sampling on Tuesday January 8, 2013. Mrs. DiMarzio holds a chemical engineering degree and Mr. Maslowski is retired from the Navy. Mr. Maslowski has volunteered to be present for a 6 month period to be present at the monthly sampling. Following the sampling and refrigeration (required while waiting pick up by the laboratory Currier) both Mrs. DiMarzio and Mr. Maslowski stated they thought all sampling techniques and procedures were adhered to per the FDEP sampling protocol.

If you would like to observe the monthly sampling along with the comprehensive annual sampling as required by the Pluris Wedgefield Inc. water permit and FDEP rules and regulations, or if you would like a tour of the water and wastewater treatment plants, please email me directly at jkuhns@plurisusa.com.

Lastly, as the current posted Pluris signs reflect - please send in your email address to info@plurisusa.com and receive a $\$ 5.00$ credit on your next bill after confirming. The email address will be used to keep you informed of utility activities throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Joe Kuhns
Pluris Regional Manager


[^0]:    "A Nov g $^{\text {th }}$ Email from Pluris reported that only 392 residents had muiled back their phone information. This chart from a Pluris Email/letter, dated Nov $28^{\text {th }}$ indicates that on Nov 21,

