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# Public Service Commission

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## -M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

| DATE: | November 13, 2013  |
|-------|--|
| TO:   | Ann Cole, Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk   |
| FROM: | Bart Fletcher, Public Utilities Supervisor, Division of Accounting and Finance   |
| RE:   | Docket No. 120209-WS - Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, and Seminole Counties by Utilities, Inc. of Florida. |

The attached document was received from Martin Friedman via email on November 12, 2013. Please incorporate this document into the docket file.

### **Bart Fletcher**

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Martin Friedman <MFriedman@sfflaw.com> Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:13 PM Bart Fletcher Patrick Flynn UIF Rate Case

#### Bart,

Pursuant to your request in our telephone conference today:

- 1. <u>Park Ridge</u>: the pro forma project included the replacement of water mains and laterals that were badly tuberculated which resulted in customers experiencing a significant pressure drop at their tap even though the pressure at the water plant remained the same, approximately 55-65 psi. By replacing these water lines, customers now have sustained pressure and flow at their tap that is much better than before. By virtue of having water delivered at a higher pressure, a customer using water for irrigation of his lawn may use more water than before for a period of time until he modifies his irrigation controller or adjusts his usage pattern. Thus, any increase in revenue is speculative and unquantifiable. Further, if there is any increase, it is likely to be for the limited period of time until customers become acclimated to the higher pressure.
- 2. <u>Ravenna Park</u>: UIF had one repair in the Test Year for \$540.75. The driver for the replacement and relocation of the FM was primarily the reduction in environmental risk caused by raw sewage discharging from failed pipe in a location that was extremely difficult to access and repair. In other words, the utility in this case was acting preemptively to avoid having a sewage spill occur and impact the customers located along that route. We took into account the pipe material and age (early 1970's Orangeburg pipe) as well as the location of the pipe (placed on a back lot line in a very heavily treed area with limited access). A future leak may not have been detected as quickly as the one in 2012 and thus cause the utility to incur substantial cleanup costs in addition to the pipe repair itself. Orangeburg pipe is notorious for being mediocre pipe material at best.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this response. Regards, Marty

#### MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN





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