## LAW OFFICES

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ROBERT M. BO24-2006)
BECCEIVED-FPS(
COMMISSION
CLERK

December 15, 2009

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re:

Docket No. 090313; Complaint of Mad Hatter Utility, Inc., and Paradise Lakes Utility, LLC against Verizon Florida, Inc.

Our File No. 37098.02

Dear Ms. Cole:

Attached for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and 15 copies of Rebuttal Testimony for Larry DeLucenay, on behalf of my clients, Mad Hatter Utility, Inc. and Paradise Lakes Utility, LLC.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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FMD/tms

Sincerely,

ROSE, SUNDSTROM & BENTLEY, LLAP

F. Marshall Deterding

For The Firm

cc:

Timisha Brooks, Esq. Dulaney L. O'Roark III Mr. Larry DeLucenay

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PPSC-COMMISSIGN OF EX

1	BEFORE	THE	FLORIDA	PUBLIC	SERVICE	COMMISSION

- 2 DOCKET NO. 090313-WS
- 3 MAD HATTER UTILITY, INC. AND PARADISE LAKES UTILITY, LLC
- 4 COMPLAINT AGAINST VERIZON FLORIDA, INC.
- 5 CERTIFICATE NOS. 340W/297S AND NOS. 458W/392S IN PASCO COUNTY
- 6 PREFILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF LARRY G. DELUCENAY
- 7 Q. Please state your name and address.
- 8 A. My name is Larry G. DeLucenay, and my address is 2348
- 9 Raden Drive, Land O' Lakes, Florida 34639.
- 10 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- 11 A. I am the President of Mad Hatter Utility, Inc (MHU) and
- the Managing Member of Paradise Lakes Utility, LLC (PLU).
- 13 Q. Have you previously provided prefiled direct testimony in
- this proceeding?
- 15 A. Yes I have.
- 16 Q. What is the subject matter of this rebuttal testimony?
- 17 A. To respond to the testimony provided by Verizon witness
- Deborah B. Kampert on behalf of Verizon Florida, LLC.
- 19 Q. What portions of her testimony do you feel require a
- 20 response?
- 21 A. As discussed in both my direct testimony and hers, there
- 22 are two distinct services having been billed for but not
- 23 provided. It is unclear to me exactly what the distinc-
- 24 tion between them is, since both appear to be services
- 25 provided across standard phone lines and use of those

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lines. However, I have addressed those separately below. The first one involves service to the water plants which was not requested until 2006 or 2007. This involves three lines to Mad Hatter's water plants and one line to the Paradise Lakes' water plant. Ms. Kampert has concluded that in fact services were not provided during any of the times that Verizon has attempted to examine the services and concludes that they owe us a refund for the failure to provide those services. However, her proposal is only for providing a refund from August of 2008 forward. This is the date of our first written complaint to them. However, we had been complaining since the lines were first installed and in fact in at least the case of Paradise Lakes' line, it was never actually installed. We do not believe any of these lines have ever worked and we attempted informally to get them to respond to us concerning those initially. However, we received no responses to our informal inquiry. After several more months they forced us to file a written complaint which was submitted to the company in August of 2008. We received no response whatsoever to that written complaint, which then after several more months resulted in the Utility being required to file this formal complaint. All that Ms. Kampert is proposing is that the refund be from the point that we filed our first written

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complaint with them which received no response. We 1 believe this is inappropriate. We believe that they have 2 never provided us with the services requested until July 3 of 2009, and therefore they owe us a refund for the 4 entire period of time that those facilities were being 5 billed, which is significantly more than the proposal for 6 refund that they have outlined in Ms. Kampert's testi-7 mony. They have absolutely no proof that they ever 8 provided us with any of those services, and they appar-9 10 ently have no record of our phone complaints and more importantly, no records of ever having done anything to 11 12 respond to the phone or even the letter, which they 13 acknowledge having received a year before this complaint was filed. However, given the other statements in Ms. 14 15 Kampert's testimony concerning their lack of proper record keeping, I am not surprised by this. 16 17 we believe that it is clear that the services can never be shown to have been provided, despite the billing that 18 has occurred for at least two years. 19

- 20 Q. What is the second area that you have discussed?
- 21 A. This involves the billings for lift station monitoring,
  22 which Ms. Kampert refers to as "voice monitoring cir23 cuits." These are standard voice phone lines that were
  24 put in by Verizon as a test marketing item at their
  25 request, not at ours, in 1995. We never requested them,

we never agreed to pay for them, and the fact that Ms. Kampert can find no contracts is not at all surprising since we never entered into one, nor did we ever file any sort of verbal, formal or informal request for these services. Ms. Kampert states that Mad Hatter requested that the predecessor, GTE, leave the four voice monitoring services in place where their equipment was removed and the services ceased in 1996. This is not true. had no basis for utilization of those lines once the equipment that GTE had installed in 1995 was removed in 1996. In fact, we had no way to use the lines since they were tied into an alarm center operated by the phone company in Tampa and once GTE/Verizon removed their printer from our offices in 1996, we had no way of receiving the "alarms." We did not even know that there were active lines. To suggest that we asked that they be left in place would imply that we had some use for those lines. As noted repeatedly, we never requested them, we never agreed to them, and we never agreed to be billed The question has to be asked why would we ask for them. for such lines to be left in place. There was no requirement for us, and still is no requirement for us, to have telephone lines to monitor our lift stations. Therefore, there is no logical purpose for us to ever have requested those lines be left in place, since we

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- never requested them to be installed in the first place
  and there is no requirement that we have such facilities
  in place. While it is true that they continued to send
  us bills, we contend that those bills were difficult if
  not impossible for us to decipher and they certainly were
  commingled with other bills sent to the Utility throughout these years.
- 8 Q. Do you have any further comments on these issues.
- Yes, to summarize our position. We should be entitled to 9 10 a refund for all of the non-functioning water plant 11 monitoring lines that have been in place since 2006 and 2007, since they have never shown to have been in working 12 13 order. With regard to the lift station monitoring lines 14 that have been in place since 1995, these were never 15 requested by the Utility, we never contracted for them, nor even informally requested these services to be 16 17 operational. Verizon's suggestion that the Utility ever requested that they be retained is clearly absurd and 18 19 totally illogical. We had no use for those facilities and had no need for them. Therefore, we should be 20 entitled to a full refund for the 13 years that those 21 have been billed. 22 Despite our request, they have provided nothing to show 23 that the billings did not continue from 1996 forward and 24 25 have shown nothing to indicate that any services were

- provided for these billings from 1996 through July of 2009.
- I would also note that Verizon still has not even 3 addressed the sewer line break that Verizon caused over 4 three years ago, in which Mad Hatter incurred substantial 5 damage to its facilities and Verizon has never sought to 6 respond to numerous requests that they pay for the repa-7 irs to it. This occurred despite the fact that we clearly 8 marked the location of our facilities at their request at 9 that time. This is just further indication of their 10 11 inability to properly maintain their system and to
- respond to complaints or to pay for errors caused by them.
- Finally, I believe since we are a regulated Utility and 14 all of our costs have to be passed onto our customers, 15 our attempts to enforce these failures on Verizon's part 16 both in the billing for services not provided, and for 17 damage to the Utility's property, have required us to 18 undertake formal legal action in order to obtain any 19 response from them whatsoever, and we believe that our 20 21 costs of approximately \$20,000 in pursuing these matters 22 should also be recovered from them, as we have no other basis other than through increased rates to our customers 23 24 to recover those costs.
- 25 Q. Does that conclude your testimony?

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