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MEMORANDUM

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TO: Docket Control Arizona Corporation Commission  
FROM: Steve M. Olea  
Director  
Utilities Division

DOCKETED

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AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

DATE: November 12, 2009

DOCKETED BY 

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATIONAL PRACTICES OF LITCHFIELD PARK SERVICE COMPANY, DOCKET NO. SW-01428A-07-0602

**Introduction**

On October 18, 2007, the Commission initiated the above referenced docket. This docket was to provide the vehicle for Staff to gather information on and monitor the operational practices of the Litchfield Park Service Company – Wastewater Division (“Company”). Also on October 18, 2007, Staff filed a memorandum of its field and office visits of July 10, 2007.

**Chronology of Filings**

On August 8, 2008, the Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) issued a Procedural Order for Staff to file by August 15, 2008, an updated report indicating whether the docket should remain open or be administratively closed.

On August 14, 2008, Staff filed a memorandum indicating a recent site visit had been conducted and described on-going plant upgrades. Staff recommended that the docket remain open until the wastewater treatment plant construction upgrades had been completed and the necessary regulatory approvals had been issued. Staff concluded that it would update the docket once the upgrade conditions had been met.

On August 20, 2008, the ALJ issued a Procedural Order ordering that the docket remain open until the construction upgrades had been completed and approved after which Staff was to file a further update.

On March 11, 2009, Staff filed a memorandum indicating that all plant upgrades were completed, approved, and in operation. Staff recommended that the docket remain open until the Company submitted a response to Staff’s data request for additional information regarding the wastewater flows and additional treatment capacity. Staff concluded that it would update the docket once the data request responses were received and reviewed by Staff.

On March 13, 2009, the ALJ issued a Procedural Order ordering that the docket remain open until further review by Staff.

### **Staff's Filing Update**

On March 6, 2009, the Company filed a rate application under Docket No. SW-01428A-09-0103. As part of the rate case evaluation, the Company submitted the requested additional information regarding the wastewater flows and addressed the additional treatment capacity.

On November 4, 2009, Staff filed its Direct Testimony for the rate case. Within its testimony, Staff concluded that:

- On September 2, 2009, Staff conducted a field inspection of the wastewater system. (Although not mentioned in the testimony, Staff did not detect any odors outside of the treatment plant facilities and within the fenceline during its September 2nd inspection.)
- The Company's 4.1 million gallon per day wastewater treatment plant capacity was adequate to serve the present customer base and reasonable growth.
- The Company's wastewater system was in total compliance with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regulations.
- The Company had no delinquent Commission compliance issues.

### **Conclusion and Recommendation**

Based on the above findings, Staff recommends that this docket (SW-01428A-07-0602) be administratively closed.

SMO:MSJ:red

Originator: Marlin Scott, Jr.

SERVICE LIST FOR: Litchfield Park Service Company  
DOCKET NO. SW-01428A-07-0602

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