



Interoffice Memorandum

November 13, 2017

TO: Mayor Teresa Jacobs
and Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Raymond E. Hanson, P. E., Director
Utilities Department

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Hanson", is written over the "FROM:" field.

**SUBJECT: BCC AGENDA ITEM – Work Session
November 28, 2017 BCC Meeting
Wedgfield Water**

**Contact Person: Todd P. Swingle, P. E., Deputy Director
Utilities Department
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The Wedgfield subdivision, located in east Orange County, was originally developed in 1962. Portions of the subdivision are served by well and septic, while additional properties (approximately 1,800) are served by centralized water and sewer infrastructure. Since inception, these centralized systems have been owned and operated by private utility companies. Currently, Pluris Wedgfield, Inc. owns and operates these systems. Regulation of these operations falls under the purview of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for water quality and the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) for rates.

Throughout the history of these systems, Wedgfield residents have voiced concerns regarding water quality, rates/pricing, and customer service levels. Over the last two years, these concerns have been discussed on several occasions during Board work sessions and open discussion items. Most recently, as part of an open discussion item on September 19, 2017, the Mayor requested that staff schedule a work session with four elements:

- Invite FDEP to provide comment regarding their regulation and the compliance status of the Pluris Wedgfield utility system;
- Invite Pluris representatives to present their perspective regarding the Pluris Wedgfield utility system;
- Provide a review by County staff of PSC jurisdiction and the process involved if Orange County were to consider assuming the responsibility of the utility;
- Provide a review by County staff of the status and process to further consider acquisition of the utility.

Due to the extent of these discussions, these topics are being covered in two separate work sessions. The first, conducted on November 14, 2017 covered the first three topics. The final topic is being covered during this work session.

Staff is seeking board direction regarding next steps on the final topic.