## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. 2005-00235

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In the Matter of: Alternative Rate Filing Adjustment of Mallard Point Disposal Systems, Inc.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## RESPONSE TO OBJECTION FOR FULL INTERVENTION BY PEGGY and JEROEN van der GAAG

In its objection to Peggy and Jeroen van der Gaag's motion to intervene to the fullest extend, Mallard Point Disposal Systems, Inc (MPDS) gives the following grounds:

That I, Jeroen van der Gaag have published defamatory statements and documents about Mark Smith and that I'm also a Defendant in the action styled <u>Mark Smith v.</u> <u>Jeroen van der Gaag</u>

While I admit that I'm the Defendant in the above-mentioned action presently pending in the Scott Circuit Court, I deny Mr. Smith's allegations that I have published defamatory statements about him to other members of the Mallard Point Owners Association, Inc., to various members of law enforcement agencies, and/or to regulatory bodies. At this point in the Scott Circuit Court litigation, Mr. Smith has failed to provide any specifics as to the alleged defamatory statements he claims I have made. Presumably, his assertion in his Complaint as to my publication of defamatory statements about him to various unspecified regulatory bodies relates to my previous intervention in MPDS's last application for a sewer rate increase before this Public Service Commission. As the PSC may recall, the concerns I raised during this previous MPDS rate increase request were for the most part the very same concerns raised by several other interveners, including the Attorney General and the PSC's own staff.

Mr. Smith was, and apparently still is, unhappy that the PSC denied the full amount of his company's previous rate increase request. Indeed, I believe that he filed the defamation lawsuit precisely because he wanted to attempt to utilize same to prevent me (and others) from intervening in the current proceeding and from raising appropriate questions and/or objections to MPDS's new request. However I fully intend to vigorously defend Mr. Smith's claims against me, and to prosecute my own claims against Mr. Smith in the Scott Circuit Court proceeding. Towards that end, my legal counsel has already filed on my behalf an Answer and Counterclaim, along with written discovery requests to MR. Smith, seeking more specific information as to the purported basis of his claims. It is my opinion that the present rate increase proceeding before the PSC should be an entirely separate matter from the Scott Circuit Court civil action filed by Mr. Smith. However, to the extent that Mr. Smith and MPDS wish to inject those proceedings into these proceedings, I will be happy to provide copies of the pleadings and/or discovery requests and responses thereto should the PSC determine that it wishes to review it.

Obviously my wife and I agree that the PSC's proceeding should remain focused on MPDS's Application and any infirmities.

Peggy and I are residents of Mallard Point and as such rate paying customers of MPDS, we therefore respectfully request that the objection of MPDS to our motion to intervene to the fullest extend permitted by law will be denied.

Respectfully

Jeroen van der Gaag 113 Shoveler Court Georgetown, KY 40324

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the original was mailed, postage prepaid, to the following:

Kentucky Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

And that a copy of the foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid, to the following:

Robert Warhus 130 Greenwing Court Georgetown, KY 40324

Honorable David Edward Spenard Office of the Attorney General 1024 Capital Center Drive, #200 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

Honorable James M. Mooney Mooney, Mooney & Mooney 208 South Limestone Street Lexington, KY 40508-2502

On this day the 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2005

Jeroen van der Gaag