

Ashley Quick

From: Katherine Fleming
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 2:11 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Corcoran/Simpson letter to PSC
Attachments: Corcoran-Simpson to PSC 3-31-16.pdf

Please place the attached in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 150269-WS.

Thank you,
Katherine

From: Julie I. Brown
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 11:51 AM
To: Braulio Baez; Lisa Harvey; Katherine Fleming; Cindy Muir; Keith Hetrick
Subject: Fwd: Corcoran/Simpson letter to PSC

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Perrin, Rachel" <PERRINROGERS.RACHEL@flsenate.gov>
Date: March 31, 2016 at 11:17:54 AM EDT
To: "julie.brown@psc.state.fl.us" <julie.brown@psc.state.fl.us>
Cc: "jon.steverson@dep.state.fl.us" <jon.steverson@dep.state.fl.us>, "rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com" <rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com>, "braulio.baez@psc.state.fl.us" <braulio.baez@psc.state.fl.us>, "jimmy.patronis@psc.state.fl.us" <jimmy.patronis@psc.state.fl.us>, "art.graham@psc.state.fl.us" <art.graham@psc.state.fl.us>, "ronald.brise@psc.state.fl.us" <ronald.brise@psc.state.fl.us>, Ann Ryan <amr328@hotmail.com>, "lisa.edgar@psc.state.fl.us" <lisa.edgar@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Corcoran/Simpson letter to PSC

Chair Brown,
Please see attached letter.
Regards,

Rachel Perrin Rogers
Communications Director & Chief Legislative Assistant
Office of State Senator Wilton Simpson
850.487.5018



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

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Environmental Preservation and Conservation,
Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government
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Judiciary
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SENATOR WILTON SIMPSON

18th District

March 31, 2016

Julie Brown, Chair
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Chairwoman Brown,

It has been brought to our attention that the Public Service Commission will be holding public hearings on April 12 in Pasco County regarding a rate increase requested by Utilities Inc. We look forward to speaking with you and your staff at these hearings.

As you are aware, the Consumer Water Protection Act (Senate Bill 272) became law in 2014. <http://laws.flrules.org/2014/68>

This bill was filed because our constituents had been subjected to multiple rate increases by this monopoly and there were serious issues with the secondary standards of the water coming into their homes. The taste, color and smell were far from ideal and the prices were high when compared to the neighboring communities and the state average.

The issues that our constituents have still continue today. They've expended a great deal of time and money trying to get better water at better prices and have not been successful. Our staff members have participated in lengthy meetings and phone conferences with the utility and the consumers regarding the same unaddressed problems for over three years.

The legislative intent of The Consumer Water Protection Act of 2014 was clear: protect Florida's consumers from paying high prices for substandard water. This utility's complete disregard for these consumers is very upsetting, but not altogether surprising. The law does not require the utility to consider the public interest or that the utility provide solutions that are in the customers best interest.

That responsibility belongs to the Public Service Commission. You and your fellow commissioners are required to consider the public interest and in egregious situations, to force the utility to move forward with solutions that are in the customers best interest.

REPLY TO:

- 322 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5018
- Post Office Box 938, Brooksville, Florida 34605
- Post Office Box 787, New Port Richey, Florida 34656-0787 (727) 816-1120 FAX: (888) 263-4821

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

ANDY GARDINER
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore

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We are confident that the Public Service Commission will follow the law by considering the public interest and demanding solutions in the customers best interest.

If for any reason your staff or your fellow commissioners are under the impression that the law would allow a rate increase under this set of facts, please rest assured: it does not.

Regards,



Speaker-Designate Richard Corcoran
House Representative, 37th District



Wilton Simpson
State Senator, 18th District

cc: The Honorable Rick Scott, Governor of Florida
Secretary Jon Steverson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Braulio Baez, Executive Director, Florida PSC
Commissioner Ronald Brise
Commissioner Lisa Edgar
Commissioner Art Graham
Commissioner Jimmy Patronis
Summertree Water Alliance