

Sandra Soto

From: Sandra Soto on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2016 8:28 AM
To: 'Katilus88'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Indian River Shores Complaint

Good morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 160049-EU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Sandra Soto
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6010

From: Katilus88 [<mailto:katilus88@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 12:26 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Brown
Cc: Records Clerk
Subject: Indian River Shores Complaint

I am a resident of Indian River Shores and am being held captive by the City of Vero Beach utility company.

Vero Beach is operating an unregulated monopoly in Indian River Shores, and is subjecting its captive customers in our Town to monopoly abuses such as excessive rates and poor service quality. It is our strong belief that Article VIII, Section 2 (c) of Florida's Constitution forbids the City from unilaterally exercising unregulated monopoly powers within our Town's municipal boundaries after our franchise agreement with the City expires in November.

As you know, the Vero Beach City Council ignored the unanimous recommendation of their own Utilities Commission and rejected a \$30 million cash offer from FPL to purchase the utility system in our Town. FPL made that offer after the Chair of the PSC, back in July, deferred consideration of our Complaint until September 13, and strongly encouraged the parties in the meantime to work in good faith and resolve their dispute through a negotiated settlement. We had hoped that FPL's significant cash offer, which included a contribution of \$3 million from our citizens, would provide a basis for that settlement. But Mayor Kramer and Councilmen Winger and Old voted instead to walk away from a cash payment that would have more than doubled the City's annual revenues.

After the franchise agreement expires, the City will no longer have our consent to operate an unregulated monopoly within our Town. We are asking the PSC to view this as a “changed legal circumstance” and grant our request for a change in territorial boundaries.

Please vote and put an end to this taxation without representation.

Regards,

George J. Katilus III
4635 Pebble Bay South
Indian River Shores, FL 32963