

**Sandra Soto**

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Brown  
**Sent:** Monday, September 05, 2016 9:03 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Fwd: PSC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

Please place the following in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 160049-EU.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[Lavandre@aol.com](mailto:Lavandre@aol.com)>  
**Date:** September 2, 2016 at 7:44:35 PM EDT  
**To:** <[Commissioner.Brown@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Brown@psc.state.fl.us)>, <[Commissioner.Brise@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Brise@psc.state.fl.us)>, <[Commissioner.Edgar@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Edgar@psc.state.fl.us)>, <[Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us)>, <[Commissioner.Patronis@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Patronis@psc.state.fl.us)>  
**Cc:** <[negron.joe@fla.senate.gov](mailto:negron.joe@fla.senate.gov)>, <[richard.corcoran@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:richard.corcoran@myfloridahouse.gov)>, <[rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com)>  
**Subject:** PSC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

To Commissioners:

**Julie Imanuel Brown**  
**Ronald A. Brise**  
**Lisa Polak Edgar**  
**Art Graham**  
**Jimmy Patronis**

As residents of Indian River Shores, my husband and I are submitting the following request to all of you for change in territorial boundaries. The City of Vero Beach will no longer have The Town of Indian River Shores' consent to operate an unregulated monopoly within our Town when the Franchise Agreement expires. We join our fellow residents in asking that the PSC focus on this happening as a "changed legal circumstance," granting the Town of Indian River Shores' request for a change to the territorial boundaries which have

thus far permitted The City of Vero Beach to operate an unregulated monopoly in Indian River Shores.

**The Following points should be noted and addressed at the upcoming September 13th PSC Hearing:**

- Vero Beach is operating an unregulated monopoly in Indian River Shores, and is subjecting its "captive" customers in Indian River Shores to unregulated monopoly abuses, including excessive electricity prices (which are now over 30% higher than FPL's) and inferior quality of service (e.g., unlike FPL, the City does not offer rebates for energy efficient appliances nor does it offer smart meters that can lower electric bills). **Unregulated monopolies are not in the public interest.**
- Having FPL, whose rates are professionally and neutrally regulated by the PSC, as the single electric utility provider in Indian River Shores would cure these issues.
- Not only are Indian River Shores residents **"captive"** customers to the Vero Beach Electric Utility, they also are completely disenfranchised. Indian River Shores residents have no say whatsoever in how the Vero utility operates, how rates are set, or how the City of Vero Beach uses the unregulated profits that it extracts from us. This was exemplified by the City Council's cavalier rejection of its own **Utilities Commission's unanimous recommendation to accept FPL's \$30 million cash offer to purchase the utility system.** In addition to that rejection, Mayor Kramer and Councilman Winger **publicly ridiculed members of the Utilities Commission - a Commission**

**appointed by the City Council to make recommendations regarding the electric utility.**

- In the interim, Indian River Shores residents have been forced to subsidize the operations of a City that is unaccountable to them - The City of Vero Beach. **This is classic “taxation without representation.”**
- Our neighbors who are fortunate enough to be served by FPL are provided with a team of lawyers from the Office of Public Counsel -- funded entirely by the State of Florida -- whose sole charge is to protect FPL customers from excessive electric rates and poor quality of service. Unfortunately Indian River Shores residents are forced to take service from the Vero Beach utility and are precluded from using the State-funded legal services of the Office of Public Counsel. **Instead, we are left to fend for ourselves and are totally at the mercy of Vero Utilities - an unregulated monopoly.**

The predecessors to the current PSC created this debacle when they approved the Territorial Agreement over 28 years ago and the PSC has not reviewed that Territorial Agreement as it applies to Indian River Shores in over 28 years. **Now is the time for the current PSC to correct these injustices.**

**Respectfully submitted by,**

**Carolyn and William Stutt  
455 Coconut Palm Road  
Indian River Shores, FL 32963**