

State of Florida



# Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

**-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-**

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**DATE:** March 6, 2017

**TO:** Carlotta S. Stauffer, Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk

**FROM:** Margo A. Leathers, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel

**RE:** Docket No. 160065-WU - Application for increase in water rates in Charlotte County by Bocilla Utilities, Inc.

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Please place the following email and its attachments in the above-referenced docket file.

**From:** [Margo Leathers](#)  
**To:** [Ashley Soete](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bocilla Utilities rate case  
**Date:** Monday, March 06, 2017 1:24:48 PM  
**Attachments:** [BUI - ADDITIONAL PETITIONS 03062017.pdf](#)

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Hi Ashley,

Can you please file this email message with its attachment in the docket file for Docket No. 160065-WU?

Thanks so much!

Margo

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**From:** Margo Leathers  
**Sent:** Monday, March 06, 2017 1:24 PM  
**To:** 'Mike Riley'  
**Cc:** christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us; 'Merchant, Tricia'; 'Linda C'; Jennifer Crawford  
**Subject:** RE: Bocilla Utilities rate case

Good afternoon Mr. Riley,

I will make sure that technical staff receives this information and that it is filed in the docket file for 160065-WU.

Thank you,

Margo

**Margo A. Leathers**  
Attorney  
Economic Regulation Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
Phone: 850-413-6076  
Fax: 850-413-6077  
Email: [mleather@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:mleather@psc.state.fl.us)

***PLEASE NOTE:** Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.*

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**From:** Mike Riley [<mailto:mikenriley@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 06, 2017 1:12 PM  
**To:** Margo Leathers  
**Cc:** [christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us](mailto:christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us); 'Merchant, Tricia'; 'Linda C'  
**Subject:** RE: Bocilla Utilities rate case

Margo

Reference: Docket 160065 – Bocilla Utilities Inc rate case

Attached please find cover letter from Palm Island Estates Association, Inc. with additional signed petitions that we received we filed them.

Please ensure these are forwarded to Staff and added to the public record for this case

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**From:** Mike Riley [<mailto:mikenriley@comcast.net>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 1, 2017 11:14 PM

**To:** 'mleather@psc.state.fl.us' <[mleather@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:mleather@psc.state.fl.us)>

**Cc:** 'christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us' <[christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us](mailto:christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us)>; Merchant, Tricia <[MERCHANT.TRICIA@leg.state.fl.us](mailto:MERCHANT.TRICIA@leg.state.fl.us)>; 'Linda C' <[lcotherman@yahoo.com](mailto:lcotherman@yahoo.com)>

**Subject:** Bocilla Utilities rate case

Margo

Attached please find a cover letter from Palm Island Estates Association, Inc. and related signed petitions in protest of the increase.

Please ensure these are forwarded to Staff and added to the public record for this case.

Respectfully submitted

Mike Riley for Palm Island Estates Association, Inc.

**PALM ISLAND ESTATES ASSOCIATION, INC.  
PO BOX 3151  
Placida, FL 33946-3151**

February 20, 2017

To: OPC and PSC Staff

Attached please find petitions with signatures from Don Pedro and Knight Islands opposing the recent request for a rate increase by Bocilla Utilities, Inc. [PSC Docket # 160065]. Please note that at this time of year it is impossible to contact all the residents (home owners) of the islands as they are not present for various reasons. Many of the residents treat their island homes as rental units, others have second homes elsewhere, and several are from foreign countries.

We believe that over 130 signatures represents the sentiment of the majority of property owners on Don Pedro and Knight Islands (the geographic water utility service area of Bocilla Utilities, Inc.). Those that did not add comments expressed their opposition verbally to the Palm Island Estates Association, Inc. Board members as the signatures were collected. Many comments voiced were "rate is already too high", "how can you add a new rate on top of the old one", "they closed down the water [treatment] plant and only sell us Englewood water, how can that be more expensive", "current rate is already one of the highest in the state", and "their current rate is not justified, how can they get away with a higher rate". Some comments were too explicit to be written down or repeated.

Please accept the attached petitions as the true pulse of the residents of the Islands and consider their concerns when you review this rate increase case. The original signed petitions are available for review if the PSC staff or Commissioners request them.

Sincerely



Wayne Ratajack  
President  
Palm Island Estates Association, Inc.

ATTACHED ARE 2 ADDITIONAL  
PETITION PAGES RECEIVED  
AFTER FIRST FILING

## Petition to stop the rate increase proposed for the customers of Bocilla Utilities

Petition summary and background	Bocilla Utilities Inc., the company that supplies potable water to island residents, is requesting the Public Service Commission (PSC) to grant them a 40% rate increase. Their present rate is the highest for any water utility in Florida.
Action petitioned for	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to reduce, not increase, our water rates. Bocilla Utilities Inc. has eliminated it's on- island water plant and now only distributes water it purchases from Englewood Water District.

**\*\*Signatures of Bocilla Utilities account holders only\*\***

Printed Name	Signature	Island Address	Comment	Date
James W Wade		8405 Anthony Pr.	water is unacceptable and unacceptably expensive	1/11/17
DONALD MILROY		480 S. GULF BLVD PLACIDA,	BROWN WATER & SMELL IS AWFUL	01/11/17
Richard Arlenti		120 N. GULF Blvd Placida	NO PRESSURE, Brown Water bad odor,	
George Geiger		490 S. Gulf Blvd.	Bad color, sediment	1/11/17
Sally Johnson		120 N Gulf Blvd	Fee expensive & no notices received	1/11/17
TYLER ERICKSON		111 N GULF BLVD	SEDIMENT	1/11/17
Howard Scibara		57 Bayshore Circle		1/11/17
KEVIN MACKIN		381 BOCILLA DRIVE	BROWN WATER	1-11-17
Cassie A tor	Cassie A tor	390 N. Gulf Blvd	Stains in toilets	1-11-17
Jeanne Ryskamp	Jeanne Ryskamp	33 S. GULF BLVD	EXCESSIVE COST	1-12-17
Kim M George	Kim M George	33 S. Gulf Blvd	UNNECESSARY RATES	1-12-17

## Petition to stop the rate increase proposed for the customers of Bocilla Utilities

Petition summary and background	Bocilla Utilities Inc., the company that supplies potable water to island residents, is requesting the Public Service Commission (PSC) to grant them a 40% rate increase. Their present rate is the highest for any water utility in Florida.
Action petitioned for	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to reduce, not increase, our water rates. Bocilla Utilities Inc. has eliminated it's on- island water plant and now only distributes water it purchases from Englewood Water District.

**\*\*Signatures of Bocilla Utilities account holders only\*\***

Printed Name	Signature	Island Address	Comment	Date
Cori Palmere	<i>Cori Palmere</i>	31 S. Gulf Blvd	terrible unacceptable cost	1-12-17
Jim Palmere	<i>Jim Palmere</i>	31 S. Gulf Blvd	excessive + unreasonable rate increase	1-12-17
Cheryl Klaus	<i>Cheryl Klaus</i>	540 S Gulf	Water colored	1-14-17