

Sandra Soto

From: Shalonda Hopkins
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:36 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160101-WS - Application for Increase in Water and Wastewater Rates in Seminole County by Utilities, Inc. of Florida
Attachments: 3-14-17, Ltr to Durso.pdf

Please place the attached in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 160101-WS. Thank you.

Shalonda M. Hopkins

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STATE OF FLORIDA

JULIE I. BROWN
CHAIRMAN



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Public Service Commission

March 14, 2017

Mayor Joseph Durso
City of Longwood
175 West Warren Avenue
Longwood, FL 32750

Re: Docket No. 160101-WS, Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Seminole Counties by Utilities, Inc. of Florida

Dear Mayor Durso:

Thank you for your interest and representation of your constituents with respect to the rate increase request by Utilities, Inc. of Florida (UIF or Utility). Please be advised that the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) as well as the Office of Public Counsel (OPC), who represents customers in rate case proceedings before the Commission, are carefully scrutinizing the Utility's rate request in great detail. This level of scrutiny includes an examination by the Commission's staff auditors of UIF's books and records since the Commission last established the Utility's rate base (or investment level), responses to numerous discovery requests asking for additional support documentation, and field inspections of UIF's water and wastewater facilities by the Commission staff engineers.

Additionally, earlier this year, the Commission held eight service hearings throughout the Utility's service territory to provide customers with an opportunity to address the Commission about UIF's request and the rate-setting process. The Commission has also received hundreds of written comments regarding this Utility's rate request. All customer comments, written and oral, will be taken into consideration when the Commission reaches a decision. The evidentiary hearing is scheduled for the week of May 8-12, 2017, to consider UIF's investment level, proposed rate structure, and quality of service. Witnesses from UIF, PSC staff, and OPC will present testimony and exhibits and be cross-examined by the Commissioners and other parties. Thereafter, Commissioners are scheduled to deliberate on UIF's request on July 12, 2017.

Thank you again for your comments and input on this matter. I hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to call me directly if you have any additional questions.

Mayor Joseph Durso

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Sincerely,



Julie I. Brown
Chairman

cc: Carlotta Stauffer, Commission Clerk
Braulio Baez, Executive Director
Keith Hetrick, General Counsel
JR Kelly, Public Counsel
Richard Kornbluh, Utilities Manager, City of Longwood