

Sandra Soto

From: Sandra Soto on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 8:23 AM
To: 'Missy MacKenzie'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: "Utilities, Inc. Florida Docket No. 20160101 rate increase request

Good morning Ms. George,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20160101 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
ssoto@psc.state.fl.us
(850) 413-6010

From: Missy MacKenzie [<mailto:missymackenzie@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 7:57 PM
To: Records Clerk; Consumer Contact
Subject: "Utilities, Inc. Florida Docket No. 20160101 rate increase request

I am writing you to express the disbelief that I and many of my neighbors within your district feel regarding the upcoming utility rate increase proposed by Utilities, Inc. in the Seminole County/Longwood area. We have all read what little information is available on the exact reasons for this rate increase, this drastic and immediate water bill increase will have a huge adverse impact on your constituents.

While we understand that rate increases are typically needed for capital improvements and maintenance of our water system, we fail to understand why such a large sum is needed by Utilities, Inc. from our neighborhood. The fact that Utilities, Inc. wants to set a 'statewide rate' for the previously individual utility companies (Sanlando Utilities in our case) means that our extra dollars we will be paying for capital improvements across the state. The notion that your constituents in Longwood will be paying double (or more) for our water in order to pay for upgrades in some other county is unacceptable...much the same way that paying more in Seminole County to fund new schools in Pinellas County (or any other county) would be.

We have all reviewed the available financial data for Utilities, Inc. on the Florida Public Service Commission website. In the 2015 financials, it shows that Utilities, Inc. has an approved Return on Equity (e.g., profit margin) of 10.69%. Therefore, it seems that our water utility has a guaranteed margin built into the system, and then wishes to charge us for capital improvements from which we will never benefit (we have never been provided with an itemized list of capital improvements in the Sandlando area which will be funded by our increase).

Water is a basic need, and we are served by a monopoly. Your constituents are left with no options, other than to have our elected representatives take up our fight.

Sincerely,

Melissa MacKenzie George