

10 September 2020

Florida Public Service Commission
Director: Office of Commission Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0870

Ref: Docket # 20200139-WS

Attn: Commissioners

Over the past recent years Utilities Inc has received rate increases that have resulted in over 100% increases in water rates. Historically Utilities Inc has operated profitably over the past 3 plus decades under their old rates, but suddenly their needs for profits exceeded 100% and the Commission that is supposed to be serving the Florida People, quickly and summarily warranted these exorbitant raises in COST to Floridians?

Now once again Utilities Inc is asking for even more profits, but does not publish the facts surrounding these requests, much less indicating the level of profit being generated based on rates already granted?

The question that begs explanation is: why is the Public Service Commission unilaterally raising the rates that Floridians pay w/o full and complete explanation of facts, including profit margins under the old rates and new rates? The quality of water has not changed, impurities still persist; requiring homeowners to invest in purification systems in order to have better quality of water.

If rates are going to be raised, the minimal qualification to Utilities Inc or any other public utility is to better serve the People of Florida with a better product. The Commission has not made such a provision for any raise in rates! Furthermore, profit margins for a utility must be confirmed by an independent accounting of the operation, guaranteeing that the financials reported are accurate and have basis.

Due to no better water quality or service, Utilities Inc should not be granted any additional raises in rates, especially after over 100% increase in recent year. My usual water rate (no sewage) used to be typically between \$25 and \$40, depending on yard watering requirements; today they broach the \$100 level in the dry season!



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