

**Alexus Austin**

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**From:** Angela Charles on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 2:59 PM  
**To:** 'Tom & Jeanne Chrisman'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket No. 150102-SU, Customer Comment regarding application for increase in wastewater rates in Charlotte County By Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven

Good afternoon,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 150102-SU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Have a good day,

Angela Charles  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee FL 32399-0850  
850-413-6826

**From:** Tom & Jeanne Chrisman [<mailto:tjchrisman@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 2:47 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk  
**Subject:** Docket No. 150102-SU, Customer Comment regarding application for increase in wastewater rates in Charlotte County By Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven

To Florida Public Service Commissioner,

We are new owners to vacation property in Charlotte County, (see below). We were informed recently that Sandalhaven has proposed a significant wastewater rate increase that would more than double our costs. As new owners, we were stunned to learn of such a sizable increase and would like to respond with the following points:

1. We understand that Sandalhaven based its rates in prior years on their projection/gamble that the area would develop faster than it actually did. Now they want to transfer their losses on to the current owners in the area, owners that have indeed invested in the community.
  - a. As new owners (as of 4/1/15), we do not believe we should liable for Sandalwood's loss of projected revenue from prior years.
  - b. Was there an agreed-upon provision in the previous years' provisions that losses to projected earnings would be paid for by owners in the area? If not, owners should not be responsible for prior year losses.
  - c. We believe that Sandalhaven should absorb their losses and not transfer them to current owners in the area.
2. Sandalhaven's proposed increases would only deter new development in the area. Now that the economy is recovering and development is once again viable, now does not seem like the time to unduly burden new owners and deter prospective buyers because of high utility costs.

3. Normally, incremental increases in services are typically based on inflation rates. Inflation rates were for 2013 - 1.5%, 2014 - 1.06% and are flat for 2015. We believe these rates should be used to determine any utility rate increases.
4. The current approved interim rates seem reasonable and should be adopted for 2016.
5. Lastly, as new owners, we based our decision to purchase property in the area not only on the desirability of the area, but on the current cost to us, including any future reasonable fair increases for services. We very well may not have purchased our condo if we had known that sizable utility increases would be made. We believe that this increase would be an unfair burden to us as new owners.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Thomas & Jeanne Chrisman  
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