STATE OF FLORIDA

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DIVISION OF ECONOMICS

CORRESPONDENCE

DIVISION OF ECONOMICS GREG SHAFER DIRECTOR (850) 413-6410

## **Public Service Commission**

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November 19, 2015

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Livingston 9009 Bantry Bay Blvd. Englewood, FL 34224

COMMISSIONERS:

LISA POLAK EDGAR RONALD A. BRISÉ

JULIE I. BROWN
JIMMY PATRONIS

ART GRAHAM, CHAIRMAN

Re: Docket No. 150102-SU Application for increase in wastewater rates in Charlotte County by Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Livingston:

Thank you for your letter in which you expressed concerns regarding Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven's (Sandalhaven) application for a rate increase. To ensure that the Commission staff and the Commissioners have knowledge of your concerns, your letter has been placed in the correspondence section of the docket file for all to review.

In your letter you also brought up the issue of effluent from the percolation ponds leaching into the surrounding area. Staff's analysis of this issue will be discussed in its recommendation. It appears that the failure of the percolation ponds, which resulted in the effluent getting into the surrounding area, was an unexpected event, and one that required significant time and resources to both isolate and correct. As you may be aware, the wastewater treatment plant (including the percolation ponds) is no longer in use and is being decommissioned, which should prevent the Fiddlers Green neighborhood from experiencing such problems in the future.

Further, we understand your concerns regarding Sandalhaven's requested rate increase and recognize that during these tough economic times any increase in your utility bill may be an additional hardship. You also expressed concerns about various aspects related to growth that did not materialize in Sandalhaven's authorized territory. In the recommendation filed by staff on November 18, 2015, these growth concerns were addressed. A copy of the recommendation can be obtained from the Commission's website located at <a href="www.flpsc.com">www.flpsc.com</a>. If you have any additional questions, or require further assistance, please call Sonica Bruce at (850) 413-6994 or e-mail her at <a href="mailto:sbruce@psc.state.fl.us">sbruce@psc.state.fl.us</a>.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston Page 2 November 19, 2015

Sincerely,

Shannon Hudson Economic Supervisor Division of Economics

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 150102-SU) Office of Public Counsel