

**Alexus Austin**

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Brown  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 4:08 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** FW: Key West Resorts Utilities Rate Increase Docket No.150071-SU  
**Attachments:** RESORT~1.doc

Please place the attached in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 150071-SU.

Thank you,  
Katherine

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**From:** [Akta@aol.com](mailto:Akta@aol.com) [<mailto:Akta@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 4:00 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Brown; Office of Commissioner Brisé; Office Of Commissioner Edgar; Office Of Commissioner Graham; [Commisioner.Patronis@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commisioner.Patronis@psc.state.fl.us)  
**Cc:** [sayler.erik@leg.state.fl.us](mailto:sayler.erik@leg.state.fl.us); Amber Norris; Julie I. Brown; Martha Barrera; [akta@aol.com](mailto:akta@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Key West Resorts Utilities Rate Increase Docket No.150071-SU

Dear Commissioners,

Attached is a letter regarding the increase in rates and charges recommended by your Staff for the above Sewer Utility in Key West/Stock Island.

We will very much appreciate your attention to this matter and we thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ann Aktabowski  
Finance Admin.

Harbor Shores Condo Unit Owners Association

770 862-6200

[akta@aol.com](mailto:akta@aol.com)

HARBOR SHORES CONDO UNIT OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.  
6800 Maloney Ave. Lot 100  
Key West, FL 33040  
February 25, 2016

Dear Commissioners,

This letter is being written on behalf of the homeowners and renters of the above Association with regard to Key West Resorts Utilities recent application for an increase in rates and the subsequent recommendations of your Staff which were published in [Docket No. 150071-SU](#) on February 18, 2016.

In a Public Hearing with your Staff on 12/10/2015 in Key West, we expressed our concerns regarding the financial impact the requested 98% increase would have on the working class people of Stock Island and, in particular, the people of this Harbor Shores Mobile home community.

Now that your Staff has published their recommendations, it is apparent that our concerns were well founded. **The Staff is suggesting in phase 1, a base rate increase of 122% plus a per 1000 gallon rate increase of 9% and an additional 11% increase in phase 11, which is truly astonishing!**

The impact of this increase, should you approve it as proposed, is an **overall average increase of 82% per Unit** in this 70 unit Mobile home community of , primarily, elderly and/or lower income residents. The average bill will go **from \$26.56 to \$48.29 a month** with some being as high as \$60 and \$70 or more a month.

It should be noted that only 13 of these Units belong to “Snowbirders” who are absent for several months a year, so the idea that that we are all rich folks with second homes is far from the truth and for those few units that are rented from local or absentee owners, the increase will most certainly be passed along to the renters. As stated earlier this Park is home to many working class and elderly people who can ill afford this major increase in their monthly expenses.

It is hard to believe that a MONOPOLY UTILITY will be allowed to increase their rates to such an enormous extent in order to facilitate the

addition of multi-million dollar condos, marinas and restaurants when, coincidentally. **these are being built by some of the same investors who own the Key West Resorts Utility.** We have also noted that the Staff is recommending that “impact fees’ be eliminated for new customers, the majority of these new customers being the above mentioned Resorts Utilities condos and marinas etc.

While I hesitate to refer to all of this as corruption, there is something terribly wrong with this whole situation. As we stated at the December 2015 meeting with your Staff, we understand that reasonable rate increases are to be expected periodically but these suggested increases are extraordinary, considering the fact that the Utility in question is also a major investor in the private building expansion that requires the increased sewer capacity in Stock Island.

While we cannot afford to attend your scheduled hearing on March 1, 2016 in Tallahassee, we are requesting that you allow us to participate by phone so that we may have the opportunity to express our concerns and/or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Aktabowski  
Finance Administrator.  
770 8862-6200  
[akta@aol.com](mailto:akta@aol.com)