

**Ashley Quick**

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**From:** Angela Charles on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2016 8:27 AM  
**To:** 'John Dillon'  
**Cc:** kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us  
**Subject:** Docket Number 160049  
**Attachments:** FL PSC.pdf

Good morning Mr. Dillon,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 160049-EU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Charles  
Commission Deputy Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee FL 32399-0850

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**From:** John Dillon [<mailto:jrdillon3@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 16, 2016 1:59 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Brown; Office of Commissioner Brisé; Office Of Commissioner Edgar; Office Of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Patronis  
**Cc:** Records Clerk; [kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us](mailto:kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us)  
**Subject:** Docket Number 160049

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a resident of the Town of Indian River Shores, I support and have a direct interest in the outcome of the Town's Petition for modification of the territorial order (Docket Number 160049). I request to be added to the official docket mailing list to receive notices of all hearings, workshops or meetings related to this case.

I further respectfully request that my attached supporting letter be consider by the Commission.

Sincerely,



**John R. Dillon**  
171 Island Creek Drive  
Vero Beach, FL 32963  
772-234-3546  
(M) 772-205-9045  
[JRDillon3@gmail.com](mailto:JRDillon3@gmail.com)

**John R. Dillon**  
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April 16, 2016

Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your website states that "The Florida Public Service Commission is committed to making sure that Florida's consumers receive some of their most essential services — electric, natural gas, telephone, water, and wastewater — in a safe, reasonable, and reliable manner".

In the case of the Town of Indian River Shores, our ratepayers have been the victims of gross economic mismanagement and partisan politics by the City of Vero Beach for decades. Not only have we had no vote in the oversight of the services, the City has in the past charged a 10% premium for non-city ratepayers which went directly into the general fund of the city, which clearly characterizes a portion of our service fees as a tax without representation. The Vero Beach politicians have an obvious bias toward high utility rates since their residents and voters pay only a portion of electricity fees, but would pay 100% of the tax increases that would be necessary if reasonable electricity rates were mandated by an objective regulatory body.

At a Vero Beach Utilities Commission meeting on 7/23/13, Pilar Turner, a Member of the Vero Beach City Council, stated that "Vero Beach has 33,000 customers who no longer want the City's electric; that Vero Beach electric cannot compete with FPL"<sup>1/</sup>. The City of Vero Beach has engaged in a deliberate and questionable accounting of the number of its customers in its filings to make sure they remain an unregulated monopoly. They should have been regulated by the PSC many years ago. It is long past time for this thuggery to end.

Worse still, the City of Vero Beach has failed to maintain their system properly as a result of substantial utility revenues transferred to their general fund, with the result that we have had a pattern of widespread power outages. Furthermore, The City of Vero Beach does not offer smart

meters, load management, a modern website that allows customers to keep their billing address up-to-date, adequate physical or cyber-security, or virtually any other customer-service features of a modern utility. Furthermore, we live in a hurricane-prone area and it should be obvious that the City's emergency response capabilities are inferior to those of FR&L.

I had a complete power outage at my home in September, 2013, and was told that the Transmission Supervisor was out of the country for several days, and there was no one else available to make a determination as to the root cause of the problem. It turned out that the City of Vero Beach was totally at fault (which they ultimately admitted), but our home was without power for nearly a week. My out-of-pocket damages were \$4,758.

We have neighbors in our same residential development that are serviced by Florida Power & Light at rates approximately 30% lower than ours. It is my understanding that FP&L is more than willing to serve our community. Our franchise agreement with the city of Vero Beach will expire shortly and proper notices have been given that the Town no longer wants their service. I fail to see how the City can argue that the original franchise agreement gives them the right to serve our town, but then argue they are not bound by their termination provisions of the agreement. By refusing to recognize the validity of our agreement, the taxpayers of both cities are being burdened by millions of dollars in legal fees.

I urge the Commission to end this price gouging once and for all, and recognize the authority of the Town of Indian River Shores to terminate the electric franchise with the City of Vero Beach. The service boundaries should be redrawn so that the remainder of Indian River Shores is served by FP&L, as are the northern residents of our town.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John R. Jellison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

*1/ Per Commission posted minutes. It is my understanding that this materially exceeds the number of customers required for the PSC to assert jurisdiction.*

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