

Collin Roehner

From: Office of Commissioner Brown
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 9:45 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Indian River Shores' complaints against Vero Beach

Please place the following in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 160049-EU.

Thank you.

From: Katrovitz [<mailto:katrovitz@aol.com>]
Sent: Saturday, September 17, 2016 12:05 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Brown
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: Indian River Shores' complaints against Vero Beach

Commissioner Brown:

We are two easy-going people who've lived in the same house in Vero Beach for over 18 years. Our Social Security income (I'm 85 and wife is 74) is just enough. We're frugal, but I am on oxygen 24/7. I know we can count on Vero Electric maintenance people to handle outages as quickly as humanly possible. When FPL first showed us comparisons several years ago, we attended and found out that we'd save a whole \$10 per month with FPL....and we'd have to have their smart meter installed in our 1950's-early 60's home. Our current meter is just outside our bedroom.

Indian River Shores and FPL made an offer to Vero of \$30 million for I.R.S. customers. According to the people who checked the numbers, this was likely about \$15 to \$17 million short of what we needed to keep from having to raise property rates and/or cutting city services. Our City Council (we were in the audience) made a counter-offer of \$47 million to consider. The FPL reps wished us city people well and left. Like many visitors, some of them went to lunch - beachside at one of our city's nice restaurants (my wife overheard them deciding where to eat).

I.R.S. complained that part of their village is on Vero Electric while the rest is on FPL. Well, this was their choice to annex the additional area/residents who were on FPL. I.R.S. complains of poor service. Well, did they give any particulars? We'd like to know. We've heard some residents of I.R.S. are pouring money into the coffers of 3 candidates running for City Council. Money does seem to work, and the thought of outsiders being instrumental in our City election is disturbing. I'm sure they would be upset if WE attempted to influence their residents to change the people in office who are bullying us. Unfortunately, we are unable to fund any such campaign.

Please understand the plight of Vero's citizens. If we're forced to make major concessions at this time, businesses may find it necessary to increase prices to pay for increased property taxes. We would all suffer the consequences of reduced services - such as our outstanding City Police Force. Cutting back on personnel in several departments was done a few years ago by cold, calloused members of the City Council. Fortunately, 2/3 of them left office but the damage had been done.

Philip & Catherine Katrovitz; 1606 25th Avenue; Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772-562-6421)