

**Collin Roehner**

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Brown  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2017 8:44 AM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** FW: Protest to Rate increase 160101 // Utilities Inc. of Florida  
**Attachments:** Exhibit A Meter readings of water being flushed.docx; Exhibit B Phone call log of two Complaints to 1. Fla DEP & 2. UIF over water issues..docx

Please place in Docket Correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket Nos. 150269 & 160101.

Thank you.

Joann

**From:** Lee Robida [<mailto:leerobida@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Brisé; Office of Commissioner Brown; Office Of Commissioner Edgar; Office Of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Patronis  
**Subject:** Protest to Rate increase 160101 // Utilities Inc. of Florida

Commissioners:

Please accept the following two attachments below as a PROTEST against the current rate increase # 160101 that Utilities Inc., of Florida has filed.

Utilities Inc., of Florida, needs to accept that there is a cost of doing business, and that getting a guaranteed ROR, of 10% and to be able to claim the flushing that they are doing now in 2017, CAN NOT & SHOULD NEVER BE ALLOWED TO BE FACTORED INTO ANY OTHER FUTURE RATE INCREASES.

Thank You

Lee Robida  
Summertree resident  
New Port Richey FL 34654

Exhibit A Meter readings of water being flushed:

Pictures are of Utilities Inc., of Florida fire hydrant, located at Merganser Way and Paradise Pt. Way, in the Summertree community of Cross Creek, NPR, FL. 34654. Off of SR 52.

The first picture was taken Tuesday 1/17/17 at 6:11pm and then this morning Wednesday 1/18/17 at 7:15am.

Between the two readings, in one twelve hour period, 330 gallons of water was flushed away, now times that by two, 12 hours periods and in 24 hour period, over 660 gallons of water is being flushed away into our ponds.

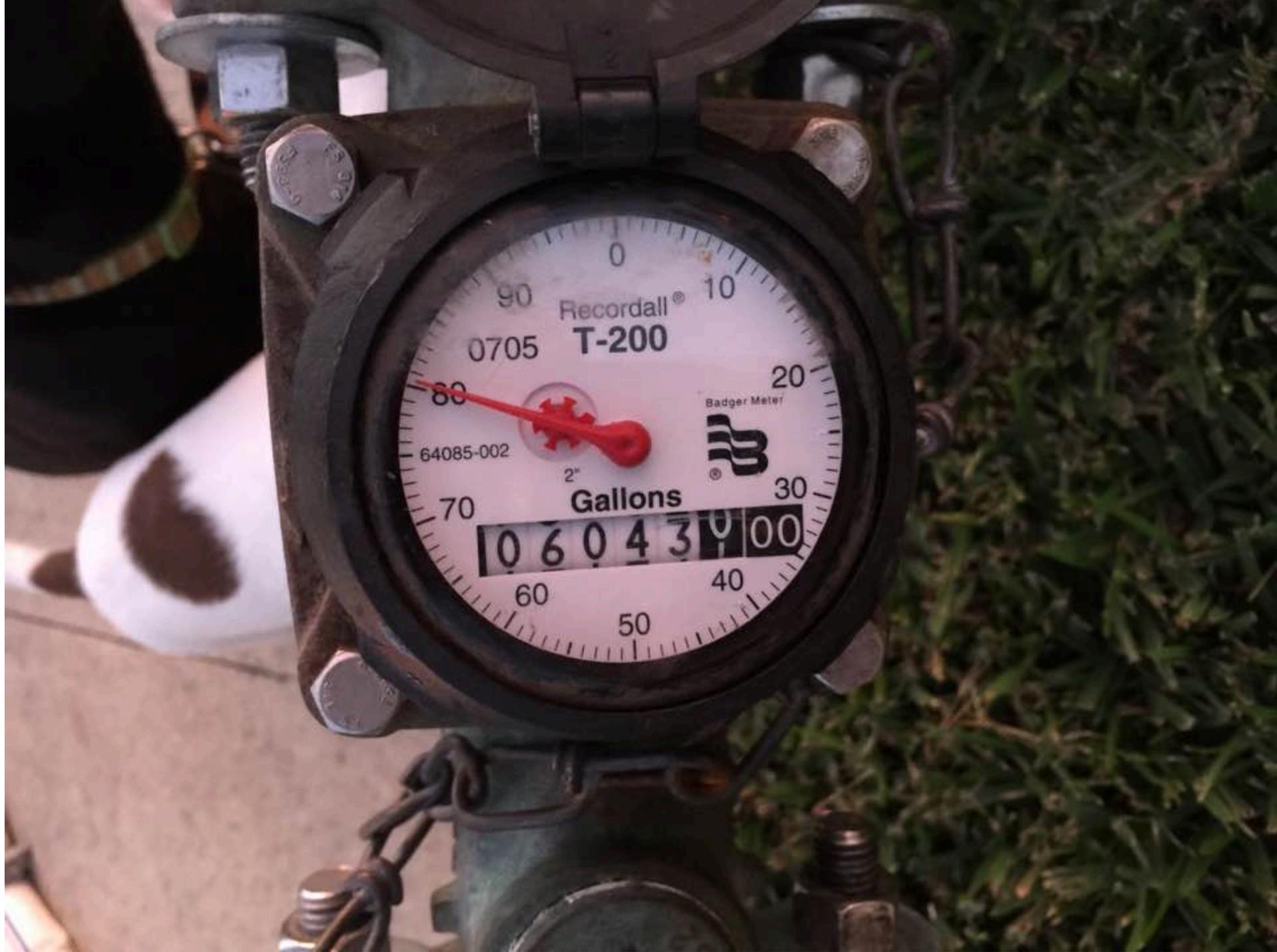
NOW multiply the 660 by 20 days since 12/30/16 and that is a FLOOD of Water of 13,200 gallons of water, just from this fire hydrant.

NOW Drive around the entire community of Summertree, and find the many other fire hydrants that are running, along with the many FLUSHING Stations that are running around the clock, as well.

NOW TELL ME HOW & WHY UTILITIES INC., of FLORIDA should get another \$30,000,000. dollar rate increase. They claim that they are working to make the chlorine levels right, but there has got to be a better way and they should be held accountable for the flushing of the water, mentioned above, so that in another 2-3 years they DO NOT GET TO CLAIM THIS WATER ON ANOTHER RATE INCREASE.

To my Florida Lawmakers: It's time to re-write the laws that give this Monopolistic Utility, the right to a GUARANTEE return of at least 10% on its doing business here in Florida.

It's time for the Lawmakers to remember that having fresh water should be a fundamental RIGHT and where the ratepayers are not taken to the cleaners, every time a private utility feels its entitled to a guarantee ROR of 10%.



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0705

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Badger Meter



2"

Gallons

06043900





Exhibit B Phone call log of two Complaints to: 1. Fla DEP & 2. UIF over water issues.

Phone call 1/17/17 Tuesday 9:09am (813-470-5964 FLA DEP from Kira Soroka of Fla. DEP)

Kara stated that they were out here last Friday 1/13/17 and that they have spoken to UIF and Pasco County Utilities.

The current facts on the flushing is as follows:

1. PCU water coming into the system, is OK, but still low in chlorine levels. Water is safe to drink. PCU is working on correcting these levels.
2. UIF water at the end of the system is also low in chlorine levels, and this is the reason for the flushing, to get the levels corrected throughout the entire system.
3. Flushing is to continue until the levels are corrected throughout the entire system.
4. Kara: she spoke to a manager of the wetlands department with DEP, and that based upon the readings of water chlorine levels, there is no concern on DEP part for the wetlands in Summertree.
5. She understands the cost factor of how UIF (as I told her) will use this flushing water to recoup these cost at a later date, in another rate increase some years ahead. She stated that there was nothing DEP could do there. I told her of our mistrust of UIF and that also I was concerned about the waste of our natural resources of water. I told her that we would have to cross that bridge when another rate increase from FPSC comes into play.
6. Bottom line: We have to wait for the water to improve and I suggested that they all (UIF, PCU, & DEP) find a solution to this issue, ASAP. We are a 55+ community on a fixed income and were seeing more homes up for sale, and were just trying to take care of our property values. All concerned parties are working for a solution. Also I mentioned a concern of the low water pressure and with the fire hydrants open along with flushing stations, and she feels that now that we are no longer on well water, that PCU, has enough water & pressure to fight any fire issue.
7. I did tell Kara of my call to UIF and that I've filed a complaint about this low water issue. (below)

Complaint to UIF on low water pressure: 1/12/17 Thursday 11:16am.

On Friday 1/13/17, 2:00pm Jeff from UIF came to my property and tested the water on the outside faucet of the water pipe into the house and had a reading of 47 PSI. I told him of the slower water issue inside the house with the kitchen faucets, as well as the slow refilling of the toilet tank reservoirs, and that I feel this is causing the toilet float to get stuck, and for the water to not shut off but continue to run.

Lee Robida  
1/17/17