

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 10:42 AM
To: 'Juanita'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160101-WS - Utilities Inc. of Florida Rate Increase Request

Dear Ms. Martin:

Thank you for contacting the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) regarding Utilities Inc. of Florida's (UIF) rate petition. We appreciate your correspondence, and it has been included in both open UIF Docket files (150269 and 160101) for consideration.

PSC customer service hearings were held in January and February 2017, throughout UIF's service territory for Commissioners to hear directly from customers about UIF's rate request and service. UIF will provide its customers with a hearing notice, including hearing dates, times, and locations. In addition to all correspondence provided to the PSC, customer comments made during those hearings will be reviewed and considered when PSC staff prepares its recommendation to the Commissioners on UIF's proposed rates.

The PSC's evidentiary hearing on UIF's rate case will be held in Tallahassee, tentatively slated for May 2017. Witnesses from UIF, PSC staff, and the Office of Public Counsel, who represents customers, will present testimony and exhibits and be cross-examined by the Commissioners and other parties. The Commission will carefully consider all evidence before making a decision.

If you have additional questions or need further assistance, please call 1-800-342-3552. If you would like updated case information, please visit the PSC's website, www.floridapsc.com and click on the Clerk's Office tab, then hit Dockets and type in case number 160101.

Sincerely,

Bev DeMello
Assistant Director

-----Original Message-----

From: Juanita [<mailto:fanceyshmancey@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:10 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Rate Increase

Florida Public Service Commission
Director, Office of Communications Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

Regarding: Utilities, Inc. of Florida rate increase request Docket No. 160101-WS

Utilities, Inc. states that they are asking for a 7.5% increase (system-wide). Looking at page #4 of the letter dated January 3, 2017, our area of Seminole-Sanlando (water), the letter indicates the (water) rate increase would actually result in a 0.4% decrease.

HOWEVER, consulting the Rate Schedule page (page 9):

1. - Residential and General Service - Base Facility Charge by Meter Size

- The proposed increase for a 5/8" x 3/4" meter INCREASES from \$4.49 to \$11.54, which represents an increase of \$7.05 (157% INCREASE)

2. - Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential

- The proposed increase from \$.95 per 1,000 gallons (for the 1st 6,000 gallons), plus \$1.43 per 1,000 gallons (for 6,001 - 15,000 gallons) to \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons (for the 1st 8,000 gallons).

- Using this info, a hypothetical household currently would pay \$5.70 (6,000 gallons) + \$2.86 (2,000 gallons) for a total of \$8.56 (8,000 gallons) vs. the proposed rates of \$15.76 (8,000 gallons), which represents an increase of \$7.20 (84% INCREASE)

3. - Total for current household, using 8,000 gallons (including Seminole County Tax @ 4%): \$13.57; total for proposed household, using 8,000 gallons (including Seminole County Tax @ 4%): \$28.39

4. - Overall total increase (including Seminole County Tax @ 4%): \$14.82 (109% INCREASE)

This rate increase will most certainly place a financial burden on the Citizens who can least afford it...the elderly who are on fixed incomes and low income families. A 100+% increase is unreasonable...access to AFFORDABLE water, to all Citizens, is crucial.

I implore the Florida Public Service Commission to deny this rate increase.

Sincerely,

Juanita Martin

Unincorporated Seminole County