

January 29, 2017

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

RE: Docket No. 160101-WS, Utilities, Inc. of Florida

Dear FPSC:

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the dramatic increase in water rates proposed by Utilities Inc. and being considered by the Public Service Commission. We have been customers of Utilities Inc. (& before them of Sanlando Water) for approximately 11 and one-half years. Over the past four years our water rates have increased by over 31%, already far in excess of the rate of inflation during that time. If the currently proposed rate increase is approved our water rates will have increased by more than 145% in four years. (See attached spreadsheet showing our water rate history over the past 4 years, assuming 40,000 gallons per month usage, and illustrating actual water rate hikes and the currently proposed increase, a copy of which filing by Utilities Inc. is also included).

We understand the need for ongoing investment in our water resources, but the rate increase being proposed is outrageous. It is indicative of either mismanagement on the part of Utilities Inc. or an attempt to garner excessive rates of return on their investment, or both. In their filing they indicate that their current rate of return is "7.95% in Seminole – Sanlando (water)." With this rate increase their rate of return on this segment of their operations would more than double.

Before granting this rate increase please consider the economic impact on the customers served by Utilities Inc., demand that they operate more efficiently and don't allow them to charge us for future expansion plans which may never come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Roger D. & Randi F. Cunningham
405 Vista Oak Drive
Longwood, FL 32779
Cunningham.rogerd@gmail.com

COMMISSION
CLERK

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RECEIVED-FPSC

Water Bill Based on 40,000 gallons of usage per month (illustration of rate changes since March 2013)

	<u>Mar-13</u>	<u>Apr-13</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>May-14</u>	<u>Mar-15</u>	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Apr-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	Proposed Rate Spring 2017		
Base Charge	\$12.70	\$11.08	\$11.20	\$11.26	\$11.42	\$11.13	\$11.19	\$11.24	\$28.84	\$1.97/thousand gallons for 1st 8000	
Usage	<u>\$55.20</u>	<u>\$63.43</u>	<u>\$64.13</u>	<u>\$64.47</u>	<u>\$65.72</u>	<u>\$77.08</u>	<u>\$77.48</u>	<u>\$77.82</u>	137.61	\$2.95/thousand gallons for next 8000	
Total	\$67.90	\$74.51	\$75.33	\$75.73	\$77.14	\$88.21	\$88.67	\$89.06	\$166.45	\$3.93/thousand gallons for overage	
Cumulative Rate Increase									31.16%	145.14% Cumulative rate increases over last 4 years	
									86.90% Rate Increase from current rates		

March 2013 Rate = \$0.87 per thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$.92 per th gallons for next 4000
 \$1.16 per th gallons for next 5000
 \$1.62 per th gallon for overage

March 2015 Rate = \$.90/thousand for 1st 6000
 \$.98/thousand gallons for next 4000
 \$1.48/thousand for next 5000
 \$1.96/thousand gallons for overage

April 2013 Rate = \$.88/thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$.95/thousand gallons for next 4000
 \$1.42/thousand gallons for next 5000
 \$1.89/thousand gallons for overage

August 2015 Rate = \$.94/thousand for 1st 6000
 \$1.41/thousand gallons for next 9000
 \$2.35/thousand gallons for overage

July 2013 Rate = \$.89/thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$.96/thousand gallons for next 4000
 \$1.44/thousand gallons for next 5000
 \$1.91/thousand gallons for overage

April 2016 rate = \$.95/thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$1.42/thousand gallons for next 9000
 \$2.36/thousand gallons for overage

May 2014 Rate = \$.89/thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$.97/thousand gallons for next 4000
 \$1.45/thousand gallons for next 5000
 \$1.92/thousand gallons for overage

August 2016 rate = \$.95/thousand gallons for 1st 6000
 \$1.43/thousand gallons for next 9000
 \$2.37/thousand gallons for overage

SEMINOLE COUNTY – SANLANDO - WATER SERVICE

	Utility Current Rates	Utility Requested Final
<u>Residential and General Service</u>		
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size		
5/8" X 3/4"	\$4.49	\$11.54
3/4"	\$6.75	\$17.31
1"	\$11.24	\$28.84
1-1/2"	\$22.47	\$57.69
2"	\$35.95	\$92.30
3"	\$71.90	\$184.59
4"	\$112.35	\$288.43
6"	\$224.70	\$576.86
8"	\$359.52	\$922.97
10"	N/A	\$1,672.89
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential		
0 – 6,000 gallons	\$.95	N/A
6,001 – 15,000 gallons	\$1.43	N/A
Over 15,000 gallons	\$2.37	N/A
0 – 8,000 gallons	N/A	\$1.97
8,001 – 16,000 gallons	N/A	\$2.95
Over 16,000 gallons	N/A	\$3.93
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service	\$1.63	\$2.98
<u>Private Fire Protection</u>		
1 1/2" Private Fire Line	\$1.87	\$2.26
2" Private Fire Line	\$3.00	\$3.61
4" Private Fire Line	\$9.36	\$11.29
6" Private Fire Line	\$18.72	\$22.59
8" Private Fire Line	\$29.96	\$36.14
10" Private Fire Line	N/A	\$51.95
12" Private Fire Line	N/A	\$97.12



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ORLANDO FL 328

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Florida Public Serv. Comm.
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