FILED JUL 23, 2015 DOCUMENT NO. 04638-15 FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for increase in wastewater rates in Charlotte

County by Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven

Docket No. 150102-SU

# NOTICE OF FILING

Applicant, UTILITIES, INC. OF SANDALHAVEN, by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby gives notice of filing, in the above-referenced docket, the Affidavit of Mailing evidencing that the Combined Initial and Interim Rate Customer Notice was sent by regular mail on July 23, 2015 to all customers of the Utility.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of July, 2015, by:

FRIEDMAN & FRIEDMAN, P.A. 766 N. Sun Drive, Suite 4030 Lake Mary, FL 32746 Telephone: (407) 830-6331 Fax: (407) 878-2178

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MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN BRIDGET M. FRIEDMAN

For the Firm

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF SEMINOLE

Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments, personally appeared Lori L. Jones, who, after being duly sworn on oath, did depose on oath and say that she is a Billing Specialist with Utilities, Inc., and on behalf of of Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven ("Utility"), on July 23, 2015, she did send by regular U.S. Mail, a copy of the Combined Initial and Interim Rate Customer Notice, attached hereto, to all customers of the Utility.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Print Name: Lori L. Jones Print Title: Billing Specialist

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>23</u> day of July, 2015, by Lori L. Jones who is personally known to me or has produced \_\_\_\_\_\_ as identification.

KATHY ANN SILLITOE
MY COMMISSION # EE860443
EXPIRES December 26, 2016
FlondsNotaryService.com

Print Name: Kathy ANN Sillitoe

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NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 12/26/16

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# COMBINED INITIAL CUSTOMER NOTICE AND NOTICE OF INTERIM RATE INCREASE

TO THE CUSTOMERS OF UTILITIES, OF SANDALHAVEN AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: DOCKET NO. 150102-SU

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN WASTEWATER RATES IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY BY UTILITIES, INC. OF SANDALHAVEN

DATED: July 23, 2015

#### BACKGROUND

Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven (the "Utility") is a wastewater utility whose corporate offices are located at 200 Weathersfield Avenue, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714. The Utility's wastewater facilities are located in Charlotte County, Florida.

On June 4, 2015, the Utility filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission (the "Commission") for an increase in its wastewater rates to its customers in Charlotte County based on an historical test year ending December 31, 2014. Final rates and interim rates are based upon the same test year. The application is assigned Docket No. 150102-SU and July 6, 2015 was established as the official date of filing.

The Utility is requesting a rate increase because the existing rates do not provide sufficient revenues to cover the required expenses of operations on a going-forward basis and an opportunity to earn a fair return on the Utility's investment in used and useful property for the public use. The rate of return on equity requested in this proceeding is 11.0%. The overall rate of return requested is 10.20%. According to the Utility's books, Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven states that its adjusted current overall rate of return without a rate increase is a negative 3.35%. The Company's last rate proceeding before the Commission was in Docket No. 060285-SU, utilizing a test year ending December 31, 2007, which culminated in Order No. PSC-07-0865-PAA-SU dated October 29, 2007. The Utility did have a subsequent proceeding before the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County.

The Utility has incurred substantial additional operating costs and capital investment. Copies of the MFRs, the Rate Case Synopsis, and the Utility's application will be available for inspection at the following locations:

Englewood Charlotte Public Library 3450 N. Access Road Englewood, Florida 34224	Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 10:00am to 6:00pm Friday – 10:00am to 5:00pm Saturday: 10:00am to 2:00pm Sunday & Monday: Closed	
Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven	Office Hours:	
200 Weathersfield Avenue	Monday through Friday	
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	

The test period for setting rates is the historical average thirteen-month period ended December 31, 2014.

## **INTERIM RATES**

On July 21, 2015, the Florida Public Service Commission approved interim wastewater rates for Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven. The interim rates will be effective five days after the date of this Notice. The interim rates will be collected subject to refund, pending the Florida Public Service Commission's final decision regarding final rates. If a refund is ordered, it will include interest based upon Commission determined factors.

The current wastewater rates, the Utility's requested interim wastewater rates, the Utility's requested final wastewater rates and the Commission approved interim wastewater rates are set forth below. The final wastewater rates are subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further Staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners.

	Current Rates	Utility's Requested Interim Rates	Commission Approved Interim Rates	Utility's Requested Final Rates
Residential Service Base Facility Charge all Meter Sizes	\$29.34	\$60.69	\$34.60	\$70.12
Charge per 1,000 Gallons 8,000 Gallon Cap	\$6.59	\$13.63	\$7.77	\$15.75
General Service & Multi-Residential Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$29.34	\$60.69	\$34.60	\$70.12
1"	\$73.35	\$151.73	\$86.50	\$175.31
1 1/2"	\$146.69	\$303.44	\$173.00	\$350.59
2"	\$234.71	\$485.52	\$276.80	\$560.96
3"	\$469.43	\$791.07	\$553.60	\$1,121.94
4"	\$733.47	\$1,517.27	\$865.00	\$1,752.99
6"	\$1,466.94	\$3,034.53	\$1,730.00	\$3,505.99
Restaurant 1"	\$73.35	\$151.73	\$86.50	\$175.31
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$7.92	\$16.38	\$9.34	\$18.93
Reserved capacity – Flat Charge, per unit	\$28.42	\$58.79	\$33.51	\$67.92

## SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES

The Utility is not requesting any changes to its service availability charges. Even though not requested to do so, the Commission may review and adjust service availability charges.

## PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETINGS

The following tentative schedule was established by the Commission for the remaining major events in the Utility's rate case (a customer meeting will be scheduled and you will be provided with a separate notice of its date, time and location):

Schedule Item	<b>Due Date</b>	
Staff's PAA Recommendation	11/18/2015	
Agenda Conference on PAA Rates	12/03/2015	
PAA Order Issued	12/23/2015	
Protest Period Expires	01/13/2016	
Consummating Order if no Protest	01/20/2016	

### HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to Commission staff may do so at the meetings, either orally or in writing. Other written comments regarding the Utility and the proposed rates, or requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

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

A courtesy copy of written comments and complaints may be mailed to the following:

Martin S. Friedman, Esquire

Friedman & Friedman, P.A.

766 North Sun Drive, Suite 4030

Lake Mary, Florida 32746

All correspondence should refer to "Docket No. 150102-SU, Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven." Your letter will placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Florida Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809, or the Commission's website available at <a href="http:\\floridapsc.com\\consumers\\complaint\\index.cfm">http:\\floridapsc.com\\\consumers\\complaint\\index.cfm</a>.

If you wish to contact the Florida Public Service Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Division of Consumer Assistance and Outreach at the following toll-free number 1-800-342-3552.

This notice was prepared by the Utility and approved by Commission staff for distribution by the Utility to its customers. If you have any questions, please call the Utility's office at (800) 272-1919.

Utilities, Inc. of Sandalhaven