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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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iona Public Service Commissio

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Public Service Commission

Lisa Polak Edgar, Commissioner

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

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September 9, 2010

Nancy Argenziano, Chairman Lisa Polak Edgar, Commissioner Nathan A. Skop, Commissioner Art Graham, Commissioner Ronald A. Brise, Commissioner Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Utilities, Inc. - Summertree, Pasco County

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing to you on behalf of my constituents who reside in the Summertree community in Pasco County. This is an over 55 community comprised mostly of seniors on fixed incomes many of whom have health problems and struggle to stay on top of the steadily rising costs of daily living. The water provider for Summertree is Utilities, Inc. I was contacted a couple of months ago by some of the residents in Summertree outlining several problems they have encountered with this utility.

The residents advised me that some time ago Utilities, Inc. was approved for a rate increase. The increase was conditioned upon the utility's commitment to upgrade the water filtering system in Summertree. Water quality has been a major issue in this community. To date the upgrade to the system has not happened even though the residents have incurred the rate increase. The residents are now facing the possibility of a further rate increase if approved by the PSC (additionally, they must also contend with increases in their monthly condo association maintenance fee to pay for water usage at their clubhouse). As if all this were not enough, Summertree is besieged with sinkholes that they are in the process of repairing; however, the residents must pay deductibles and other miscellaneous costs associated with the sinkhole dilemma and not covered under their homeowners insurance.

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The rate increases requested by Utilities, Inc. are burdensome and have created an undue hardship on the residents of Summertree. I respectfully request that your agency deny any further rate increases to Utilities, Inc. especially in light of the fact that they have defaulted on their obligation to repair the water filter system in this community. I understand from the residents that a meeting with the PSC and Utilities, Inc. was held last month and that the PSC has ordered Utilities, Inc. to test the wells. After the PSC has reviewed the results, it will be determined if a rate increase is warranted.

Again, I urge you to deny any further rate increase to Utilities, Inc. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerety

Pat Mulieri, Ed.D., Chairman

District 2 PM:lp

CC:

J.R. Kelly, Office of Public Counsel

Patrick C. Flynn, President, Utilities, Inc.

Christian W. Marcelli, Esq. Ms. Marlene Woodford