## **Alexus Austin**

From: Office of Commissioner Brown

Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:49 PM

To: Commissioner Correspondence

**Subject:** FW: Indian River Shores docket160049

Please place the email below in docket correspondence, Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket No. 160049.

Thank you, Joann

----Original Message-----

From: John Higgs [mailto:higgscom@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 10:34 AM

To: Office of Commissioner Brown

Cc: clerk@psc.state.fl.com

Subject: Indian River Shores docket160049

## Dear Mr. Chairman

I am one of the residents of Indian River Shores that has been burdened by the extortionate utility rates imposed upon me by the City of Vero Beach. I have known for years that the territorial agreement had an expiration date and have waited patiently for it to expire. I assumed that at that time we could be free of Vero and make our own deal. I also noted that when the City entered into a coal based supply agreement only a few years ago it was not only ignoring the expiration date it had with the Town but it was making a VERY stupid decision. The same can be said for the earlier deals it made.

None of the residents of our Town were consulted when these deals were made and they were made, apparently, on the assumption that we were forever locked into the Vero system. This assumption is not correct. Your Commission can free us of this expired agreement (and the territorial franchise) that apparently goes with it including the unreasonable rates and unfair subsidization of the City's operation that we now suffer under.

The City claims that it should receive protection for the future and be paid for its investment. In America that only is legal and fair if the person claiming a return on its investment deserves so because is operation was well run and it made good investment decisions.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The City has, without the participation of me as a ratepayer or my Town, consistently made economically stupid decisions. Let it live with them. That is the American way.

Let it live with them and let us innocent victims make our own decisions for our own futures. I think we can make ones that are better but if not we can and will live them.

Free us from this unfair territorial agreement when the franchise agreement expires!

John H Higgs 45 Waxmyrtle Way Indian River Shores 32963

Sent from my iPad