

Tristan Davis

From: Tristan Davis on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 8:30 AM
To: 'Lori Michaels'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20250088-WU/ Water Oak- Sun Communities - Oppose Insane Water Rate Increase

Good Morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20250088, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance.

Thank you!

Tristan Davis
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6121

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From: Lori Michaels <llmichaels15@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2026 11:05 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Lori Michaels <llmichaels15@yahoo.com>
Subject: Docket No. 20250088-WU/ Water Oak- Sun Communities - Oppose Insane Water Rate Increase

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Subject- Public Comment – Docket No. 20250088-WU – – Sun Communities Finance LLC d/b/a Water Oak Utility

I am a new Water Oaks resident (purchased 4/1/25) and I am aged 60 and chose Water Oak believing I would live here likely 20 years. I was told that the land lease rates would not go up more than 5 % a year. It was never communicated to me that they could raise the water rates from approximately \$15.00 a month to \$100.00 a month. They already had a huge rate hike for the land lease, and the sewer and water rates went up in October 2025. Instead of feeling wonderful about my purchase and ability to meet financial goals for my future, I am faced with new thoughts that I would have to move in two or three years, as opposed to twenty-- because of this unfair and unjustified intent to burden us financially.

It appears to me that Water Oak/Sun Communities was not content enough with the property they owned and instead chose to purchase more land, spend money on clearing that and doing whatever it took to add more houses, and a huge pool and fountains and to continuously water that area, as a way of increasing sales. (Corporate Greed) -- They also run a golf course that requires massive amounts of water use, for which I do not golf. I am a single person on a single income, trying to live a simple and affordable life. We are asked to pay for the water that is used to water the grass on our lot but are reminded constantly that we do not own the land. If we don't own the land, then Water Oak should be responsible for the water used to keep the lawns in a respectable manner. How much money did they spend on the new huge Resort Style pool, for which I likely will never use? I take great pride in my home and want to continue to do so. What they are proposing be done would make me stop watering my yard completely, in an effort to try and use water only when it is necessary as a routine activity of daily living.


I don't understand why we should not pay what the Lake County residents pay for their water, since we are in Lake County .. Having lived here 9 months, why should I be asked to pay for expenses that were incurred when I didn't live here?

Instead of creating financial hardships for everyone in the community, why not look at how much money is spent on a few salaries in Management?

For Sun Communities, the new President and CEO, Charles D. Young, has a \$900,000 base salary starting October 1, 2025, with potential bonuses up to 600% of his salary, while former President John B. McLaren's 2024 compensation was over \$3.2 million total, showing significant executive pay structures at the company



Key Details for 2025 & Beyond

- **Charles D. Young (New CEO/President):**
 - **Base Salary:** \$900,000 annually.
 - **Target Bonus:** 200% of base salary, with potential up to 600% based on performance.
 - **Equity:** Significant restricted stock grants for 2025 and 2026, with a \$6 million target for the 2026 grant.
 - **Effective Date:** Became CEO on October 1, 2025, following  [Gary Shiffman](#)'s transition.



Google Search

Previous Year's Data (for comparison)

- **John B. McLaren (Former President/COO):**
 - **Total Compensation (2024):** Around \$3.26 million (including salary, bonus, stock).

In Summary: Charles D. Young's 2025 compensation package starts with a solid \$900,000 base, but his total earnings will significantly increase with performance-based bonuses and substantial stock awards, reflecting Sun Communities' executive compensation strategy

If this property was not properly managed and money spent where it should not have been, that burden should not be forced on to the homeowners in any way, shape or form. People will be forced to leave and the property will deteriorate. Have the Management of Sun Communities, not take a Bonus for 2 years or reduce his salary in half for 2 years to do what it takes to "right the ship" so to speak.

I oppose any rate hike that exceeds what the county of Lady Lake residents pay, for personal water use.

Thank you,

Lori Michaels
108 Palm Drive
Lady Lake FL 32159
Lot #120
Water Oak Estates