

Tristan Davis

From: Tristan Davis on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 8:30 AM
To: 'Monica Hill'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20250108-WS (Sunlake Estates Utilities, LLS proposed water rate increase)

Good Morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20250108, 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

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your email message may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Monica Hill <monicahill54@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 11:04 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket No. 20250108-WS (Sunlake Estates Utilities, LLS proposed water rate increase)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Commissioner,

I am a four-year resident of Sunlake Estates and am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed water rate increase requested by Sunlake Estates Utilities, LLC (SEUL) - (Docket No. 20250108-WS) in Lake County. This drastic increase (78% to 190%) is unwarranted and will place a significant financial burden on most households in the community.

Our concerns include, but are not limited to:

Affordability:

- The proposed rate increase is excessive compared to inflation and income growth. A 78% to 190% increase is unjustifiable.
- SLEU states there are 2.48 people per household in Sunlake Estates. We would like to see the supporting documentation on this, as all households (I am aware of) have a maximum of 2 people and many have only 1 person.
- In addition to indoor daily water use for necessary functions, SUN, Inc. (Sunlake

Estates Utilities, LLC's parent company) now mandates twice weekly watering of lawns and annual pressure washing. This was added to their revised Prospectus which went into effect in January of 2026.

Quality of Service:

- The current service provided does not justify a higher rate
- Numerous water main breaks, often lasting several hours at a time
- Water main breaks are a frequent occurrence in Sunlake Estates. SLEU states they only received one complaint. Residents of this community would not know to complain to this utility company. All complaints and concerns are submitted to the SUN Community Management and, in some cases, directly to SUN, Inc. It is apparent these complaints/ concerns are not passed along to SLEU.
- Sunlake Estates Utilities, LLC provides no relief on the sewer side for watering the lawn or other outdoor water usage
- Fact: There were ten (10) water main breaks in 2023; 29 breaks in 2024, and 15 breaks in 2025.
- The monthly invoice payments are made to SUN, Inc. Contact information for SLEU is not noted anywhere on the bill.
- Poor communication when water related issues occur.

Impact on Seniors/Fixed Income:

- Many residents in this 55+ community are on a fixed income, and this increase will force them to choose between water service and other essentials.
- The 5+ percent rent increase this year and projected 7% rent increase next year, increased water rate and overall significant increases in all aspects of daily living, would make it impossible for most seniors to sustain a healthy, comfortable lifestyle they worked their entire lives to enjoy. Many are already struggling to pay their increasing pass-through taxes. This increase has the potential to cause some to have to sell their home or walk away from the house to simply survive.

Alternative Approach:

- Before considering this extreme increase on vulnerable senior citizens, we ask that you recommend an "educational" approach to help relieve SLEU's financial concerns.
- Most responsible utility companies make attempts to "educate" their customers on responsible utility usage and offer advice on how to decrease the amount being used.
- SLEU has NEVER made an effort to work with the residents to reduce water consumption.
- The monthly invoice has never contained helpful information on water usage.
- Proactive conservation education demonstrates a utility's commitment to its customers, fosters trust, and reflects a good-faith effort.
- By educating customers on managing water usage, utilities can reduce the load on the grid, especially during peak times.
- Providing tips on how to save water, and thus money, empowers customers to better manage their utility bills and improves customer relations.

We have reviewed the documents submitted by SLEU, as well as the audit conducted by the Commission, and have many concerns with SLEU's questionable accounting and reporting practices. We understand an increase is inevitable; however, a 78% increase is grossly excessive. We request that the Commission deny this rate increase and forces Sunlake Estates Utilities, LLC to review their entire operational efficiency before placing a crippling burden on ratepayers.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this serious matter. We look forward to the meeting on May 15th to hear the response to our concerns.

Monica Hill
1255 Warmwood Drive
Grand Island, FL