

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 8:14 AM
To: "J. Robert Barnes"
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Vote NO on Utility Rate Increases!

Good Morning, Mr. Barnes.

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20210015, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Thank you!

Toni Hover

*Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6467*

From: "J. Robert Barnes" <jrobertbm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 8:47 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Vote NO on Utility Rate Increases!

Dear Florida Public Service Commissioners,

Florida Power & Light (FPL) is planning to increase bills for their customers, which would impact us all. In addition to profiting off unsustainable global warming polluting energy resources, FPL was one of several power companies that resumed closing customer accounts due to non-payment during the second wave of the pandemic. The heatwave in the Pacific Northwest, the California wildfires, and the Texas freeze are the alarm bells of the climate emergency. In the midst of rising temperatures, due to climate change, disconnecting people from their electricity is a matter of life and death for many Floridians. We are demanding that Florida Power & Light halt this unjust and dangerous practice and that Florida's Public Service Commission require FPL to institute a disconnection policy during extreme heat/cold days, maintain fair rates for their consumers, and prioritize the communities that are hit the hardest and on the frontlines of the climate, pandemic, and economic crisis.

The climate crisis threatens everything that Floridians hold dear, including our parks, our beaches, and our drinking water. Yet, Florida's largest utility companies want to build even more dirty fossil fuel infrastructure and raise our power bills to pay for it. This will only make seas rise higher, storms get stronger and destructive, and days hotter and more dangerous.

Floridians are just beginning to recover from a pandemic that created financial hardships for countless families and businesses. But right now, FPL is attempting the largest rate increase in Florida history locking customers into higher bills by raising rates nearly 18-20%, increasing fees and minimum monthly bills, and denying

customers helpful options to make bills more affordable. Approving a \$2 billion rate increase now creates a crisis within a crisis for so many Floridians and the Public Service Commission should reject these requests.

Please prioritize Florida families and vote NO to increasing utility rates!

Sincerely,
J. Robert Barnes
jrobertbm@gmail.com 33030

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