

122 West Michigan Ave.
DeLand, Florida 32720
August 21, 2022

Re: Docket No 20220067-GU

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399- 0850

Sirs:

I have read the circular provided by Florida Public Utilities regarding its reasons for raising rates for its customers.

I am a residential customer living in an area that has had gas service for many years. I do not live where significant service line extensions are likely. My service, FPU, has worked on local maintenance routinely.

Part of my concern is that regular rate payers like me will shoulder costs for expansion services. New services should be the responsibility of the company as its own customer base infrastructure expansion. Adding new customers is a normal business effort that should be a business-based cost. New utilities customers themselves will pay for service expansions over time.

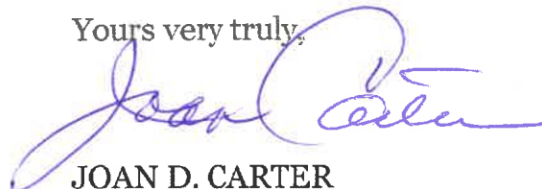
Another specific point conveyed by FPU is that their costs have risen as a result of inflation. As a result they say they have proposed that my rate should be increased by about 24%.

The most recent US inflation rate is reported to be 8%. Before this, inflation has been virtually nil.

24% is three times 8%. Because rates are imposed over many (future) months a 24% increase will stick for years beyond the current reported inflationary bump. Ironically a significant rate increase now will become a factor in ratepayers' cost of living inflation today and for years ahead.

I urge the Commission to rein in FPU's rate request. It is excessive and opportunistic.

Yours very truly,



JOAN D. CARTER

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