

Hiep Nguyen

From: Office of Chairman Fay
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 11:56 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Florida City Gas Hearings

Please place the email below in Docket No. 20220069

Thanks

From: Maria Martinez <wesak@ymail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 11:34 AM
To: Office of Chairman Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Florida City Gas Hearings

Regarding the hearings for Florida City Gas rate increase, please consider:

1. I understand costs are up everywhere and salaries for workers might need increase too, but increasing each home's bill by \$8.00 - \$10.00 per month is excessive.
2. Many of Florida residents are retirees on a fixed budget and at an age where no one would offer us employment even part time. That increase amount would cover eggs, bread, rice and beans for at least a week.
3. Most of the charges in our FCG bills are service charges and taxes. E.g. my gas consumption is usually \$3.32 but there is a basic service charge of \$12.00, an energy charge of \$3.09, a safe charge of \$3.17, a utility tax of \$1.88 and a gross receipts tax of \$0.21. So my monthly bill is around \$23.67 and does not fluctuate much. I only use gas for the water heater. I live alone in a small apartment. What I pay in taxes and service fees is already excessive. This really kills the concept that gas is less expensive than electricity.
4. On this budget I see no logic to receive an \$8.00 or \$10.00 rate increase
5. Lastly but very important, if that increase is approved, I would have to close my gas account. Simply cannot afford it.

Hope this serves a purpose as I know many other retirees are struggling with increased costs in everything. And hope you can do something about it.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Martinez
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Sent from my iPhone