

**Antonia Hover**

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**From:** Ellen Plendl  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2023 10:18 AM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20210015  
**Attachments:** FW ; Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

See attached customer correspondence and reply for Docket No. 20210015.

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Governor's Office of Citizen Services <EOGCitizenServices@eog.myflorida.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2023 9:19 AM  
**To:** EOG-Referral  
**Subject:** FW:

Please find attached email received by the Governor's Office of Citizen Services. This email is forwarded to your office for review and any response or action appropriate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martha Lynn  
Office of Citizen Services  
Executive Office of the Governor

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**From:** Mike Vaupel <xke999@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 20, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com  
**Subject:**

Dear Governor DeSantis,

My name is Mike Vaupel and I am reaching out to you from the Pembroke Pines area in Broward Cty. Thank you for vetoing HB 741 and protecting Florida families from utility overreach, additional charges and our right to energy freedom. Unfortunately, this wasn't the only recent rate hike. I am being unfairly charged a minimum bill because FPL is greedy.

I believe this is unfair because I made this investment with my own money to put rooftop solar panels and storage batteries on my house.

As a solar homeowner, I went solar because I believe burning coal and fossil fuel to produce electricity is polluting our State and should not be supported by our State Gov't.

Using my own earned credits to reduce my bill and then hitting me with a minimum bill is double-dipping and stealing from my investment of \$60k.

Please advocate for these new fees to be reconsidered by the Public Service Commission. Thank you for your leadership for Floridians like me.

Sincerely, Mike Vaupel , 33024 zip code.

Please note that under Florida law correspondence sent to the Governor's Office, which is not confidential or exempt pursuant to chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, is a public record made available upon request.

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Shonna McCray  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'xke999@gmail.com'  
**Cc:** Ellen Plendl  
**Subject:** Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

Mr. Mike Vaupel  
[xke999@gmail.com](mailto:xke999@gmail.com)

RE: FPSC Inquiry 1414714C

Dear Mr. Vaupel:

The Governor's office forwarded a copy of your email regarding Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) and the minimum bill charge to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC). The FPSC regulates investor-owned electric, and natural gas utilities throughout the state, and investor-owned water and wastewater utilities in those counties which have opted to transfer jurisdiction to the FPSC. The FPSC has authority in the telephone industry which is limited to the Lifeline Assistance Program, Florida Relay Service, and pay telephone service. We appreciate the opportunity to respond directly to you.

Under Rule 25-6.065, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), net metering is defined as “a metering and billing methodology whereby customer-owned renewable generation is allowed to offset the customer’s electricity consumption on-site.” The rule states that “[d]uring any billing cycle, excess customer-owned renewable generation delivered to the investor-owned utility’s electric grid **shall** be credited to the customer’s energy consumption for the next month’s billing cycle” (Rule 25-6.065(8)(e), F.A.C., emphasis added). Further, excess energy credits produced by the customer “**shall** accumulate and be used to offset the customer’s energy usage in subsequent months” (Rule 25-6.065(8)(f), F.A.C., emphasis added).

The net metering rule requires utilities to offset customer energy consumption during each billing cycle with excess renewable energy credits accumulated by that customer. For some customers, the requirement on the utility to offset the customers’ energy consumption with accumulated credits may result in a monthly bill that falls below \$25. If that is the case, the new minimum monthly bill charge will be applied to bring the monthly bill up to \$25. Some customers have suggested that the utility only offset consumption to the point that they stay at or above a \$25 monthly bill, thereby reserving the credits that would bring them below the minimum bill. However, the net metering rule does not provide the utility with discretion to offset “some” of the customer’s energy consumption in order to not go below \$25. The utility is required to apply energy credits to the customer’s consumption until either the credits or the consumption reach zero.

The Florida Public Service Commission approved Florida Power & Light Company’s (FPL) general base rate settlement agreement in Order No. PSC-2021-0446-S-EI, issued on December 2, 2021, in Docket No. 20210015-EI. The settlement agreement was entered into by FPL and various parties representing consumers, including the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) who advocates on behalf of Florida consumers. The settlement agreement includes numerous provisions with regards to FPL’s base rates through the end of 2025.

FPL’s net metering program will continue to function as it always has. Credits for kWhs delivered to the grid, compared to the kWhs taken from the grid will be calculated as they have been historically. The only change is that customers who have a bill under \$25 after net metering in any given month will now receive the minimum bill of \$25. Commission staff has confirmed that FPL continues to implement net metering practices pursuant to the requirements of the net metering rule.

FPL explained that the minimum bill provision was included in the settlement agreement to ensure that all residential and general service non-demand customers contribute towards fixed costs of maintaining the electric system, costs which exist as a result of serving even limited amounts of energy to customers. The Commission approved the settlement agreement as being in the public interest when taken as a whole, and providing a comprehensive and balanced resolution to FPL's original petition for a base rate increase that provides rate stability for FPL's customers.

You also expressed concern that you received no acknowledgement following your October 19, 2022 E-mail to the FPSC. Your October 19, 2022 E-mail was previously added to our files as a protest to the FPL's Rate Case, docket 20210015, as will your December 19, 2022 E-mail to the Governor's Office. You may review all the information filed for Commission consideration in docket 20210015 by accessing the FPSC website at <http://www.floridapsc.com>. Under the Clerk's Office tab at the top of the page, click on Dockets. Type in the docket number 20210015. Click the Search button. Then select Document Filings Index for a list of all filings in the docket. This procedure allows you to view all of the information filed by the utility and other parties in the docket.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Ellen Plendl at 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

Shonna McCray  
Regulatory Program Administrator  
Florida Public Service Commission