

**Antonia Hover**

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**From:** Ellen Plendl  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2023 4:14 PM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket Nos. 20230001 & 20230019  
**Attachments:** FW Teco and Hillsborough Water Rate Hikes; Consumer Inquiry - Tampa Electric Company

See attached customer correspondence and reply for Docket Nos. 20230001 & 20230019

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Governor's Office of Citizen Services <EOGCitizenServices@eog.myflorida.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2023 2:46 PM  
**To:** EOG-Referral  
**Subject:** FW: Teco and Hillsborough Water Rate Hikes

Please find attached email received and responded to 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:** Francis Fedor <ffedor1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2023 11:25 PM  
**To:** GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com  
**Subject:** Teco and Hillsborough Water Rate Hikes

Constituent message:

1. **Name**  
Francis Fedor
2. **Email Address**  
[ffedor1@yahoo.com](mailto:ffedor1@yahoo.com)
3. **Phone Number**  
2026839691
4. **Subject**  
Teco and Hillsborough Water Rate Hikes
5. **Message**  
I wanted to express my concern for the rising costs that are rubber stamped by the Hillsborough Public Utilities Commission. I received my water bill and it is 20% higher than it was in Jan. and almost 30% higher than it was in November. And Teco is also raising its prices at 14%. These hikes are out of control and affect those on a fixed income or have families where their jobs aren't increasing their salaries at 44% (Teco + Water), not to mention the higher cost of food and gas. While I love Gov. Ron Desantis and supported his reelection, it would be great if he stepped in and started looking at these rate hikes and how they are affecting a population that struggles on a day to day basis while, I'm sure, the executives at these organizations (Teco and Hills Water) aren't seeing their salaries decrease, but likely are seeing them go up. It would be nice if the executives bared the burden of the 44% increase and the citizens didn't have to bear almost a 50% increase in utilities.
6. **Attach file (optional)**

This message was sent from <https://www.flgov.com>.

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:** Ellen Plendl  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2023 4:10 PM  
**To:** 'ffedor1@yahoo.com'  
**Cc:** Shonna McCray  
**Subject:** Consumer Inquiry - Tampa Electric Company

Mr. Francis Fedor  
ffedor1@yahoo.com

RE: FPSC Inquiry 1415687C

Dear Mr. Fedor:

The Governor's office forwarded a copy of your email regarding Tampa Electric Company (TECO) 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.

You expressed a concern about recent rate increases, including the fuel charge. The fuel charge recovers the actual cost to secure and process the fuel necessary to generate electricity. Fuel rates mirror rising and falling fuel costs as reflected in the international marketplace. Any revenue generated by the fuel charge pays fuel suppliers and transporters; utilities are not allowed to earn a profit on fuel costs. On your bill, fuel appears as a separate cents per kilowatt-hour charge.

Each year, utilities file their projected fuel costs for the upcoming calendar year. The FPSC, along with the Office of Public Counsel and other consumer representatives, closely examine the utilities' requested fuel costs. Public hearings are held to set the annual fuel factors. Since rates are set on projected costs, at the end of the year, the costs are "trued-up" or compared to the audited actual expenses incurred by the utility. Any over or under recovery from the utility's actual costs will be reflected in next year's costs. The fuel cost adjustment is recognized by state commissions, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and is also used by most municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives.

On December 6, 2022, the FPSC set the 2023 fuel charge for the customers of TECO after carefully considering testimony and evidence on its projected costs at a public hearing.

Below is a breakdown of TECO residential customer bills for 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity prior to January 2023, as well as bills effective January 2023.

### **TOTAL MONTHLY BILL - RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - 1,000 KILOWATT HOURS**

**January 2023**

<b><u>Present</u></b>	Tampa Electric
<b>September - December 2022</b>	Company
Base Rate Charges	\$79.46
Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause	\$37.91
Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause	\$2.36
Environmental Cost Recovery Clause	\$1.38
Capacity Cost Recovery Clause	\$0.53
Storm Damage Cost Surcharge	N/A

Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery	\$3.29
Asset Securitization Charge	N/A
Transition Rider/Credit	N/A
Clean Energy Transition Mechanism	\$4.41
Gross Receipts Tax and Regulatory Assessment Fee	\$3.32
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$132.66</u></b>

<b>Revised</b>	Tampa Electric
<b>January 2023</b>	Company
Base Rate Charges	\$86.22
Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause	\$45.25
Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause	\$2.81
Environmental Cost Recovery Clause	\$0.92
Capacity Cost Recovery Clause	-\$0.18
Storm Damage Cost Surcharge	N/A
Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery	\$3.73
Asset Securitization Charge	N/A
Transition Rider/Credit	N/A
Clean Energy Transition Mechanism	\$4.30
Gross Receipts Tax and Regulatory Assessment Fee	\$3.67
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$146.72</u></b>

<b>Increase / (Decrease)</b>	Tampa Electric
	Company
Base Rate Charges	\$6.76
Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause	\$7.34
Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause	\$0.45
Environmental Cost Recovery Clause	-\$0.46
Capacity Cost Recovery Clause	-\$0.71
Storm Damage Cost Surcharge	N/A
Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery	\$0.44
Asset Securitization Charge	N/A
Transition Rider/Credit	N/A
Clean Energy Transition Mechanism	-\$0.11
Gross Receipts Tax and Regulatory Assessment Fee	\$0.35
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$14.06</u></b>

Teco's basic service, or customer, charge is \$0.71 per day. 30 days is assumed to calculate base rate charges.

TECO has filed for a Mid-course correction for fuel charges in Docket 20230001. Mid-course corrections are used by the Commission between annual fuel clause hearings whenever costs deviate from revenue by a significant margin. Cost recovery factors are usually effective for a period of 12 months. However, we require that if an investor-owned electric company's fuel or capacity cost recovery position is projected to exceed a specified range within the standard 12-month timeframe, then a filing and analysis into the continued reasonableness of the prevailing cost recovery factors must be performed. This requirement is codified by Rule 25- 6.0424, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and is commonly referred to as the "mid-course correction rule."

(Over or under collection is a credit or debit to the amount to be collected the next period (year). The total fuel factor may go up or down regardless of whether there was an over or under collection in the prior period.)

TECO also filed a petition for recovery of costs associated with named tropical systems during the 2019-2022 hurricane seasons and replenishment of storm reserve in Docket 20230019.

We appreciate you sharing your views and will add your correspondence to both dockets.

You may review all the information filed for Commission consideration in the above dockets 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 each docket number. 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 each utility and other parties in the docket.

You also expressed concern about Hillsborough County Water Utilities. The FPSC does not have authority over water and wastewater service provided by municipalities as per section 367.022, Florida Statutes, indicates that systems owned, operated, managed, or controlled by governmental authorities, including water or wastewater facilities operated by private firms under water or wastewater facility privatization contracts as defined in s. 153.91, and nonprofit corporations formed for the purpose of acting on behalf of a political subdivision with respect to a water or wastewater facility are exempt from regulation by the FPSC as a utility nor are they subject to the provisions of Chapter 367. You may review the section by using the following link:

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&Search\\_String=&URL=0300-0399/0367/Sections/0367.022.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0300-0399/0367/Sections/0367.022.html)

You may contact the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners regarding your water billing concerns by using the following information:

Chairman Ken Hagan  
Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners  
601 East Kennedy Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33602

Telephone: (813) 272-5452

Fax: (813) 272-7047

Contact Form: [https://hcflgov.formstack.com/forms/contact\\_commissioner?field51883190=2](https://hcflgov.formstack.com/forms/contact_commissioner?field51883190=2)

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 1-800-342-3552 or by fax at 1-800-511-0809.

Sincerely,

Ellen Plendl  
Regulatory Consultant  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach  
1-800-342-3552 (phone)  
1-800-511-0809 (fax)