

Yvette Gillespie

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:20 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket Nos. 20230001 & 20230017
Attachments: Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company; FW: Immediate Action Required: Protect Floridians from Rising Energy Costs

See attached customer correspondence and reply for Docket Nos. 20230001 & 20230017.

Yvette Gillespie

From: Governor's Office of Citizen Services <EOGCitizenServices@eog.myflorida.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 3:02 PM
To: Ellen Plendl
Subject: FW: Immediate Action Required: Protect Floridians from Rising Energy Costs

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

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

-----Original Message-----

From: purrazz@everyactionadvocacy.com <purrazz@everyactionadvocacy.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2023 7:42 AM
To: GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com
Subject: Immediate Action Required: Protect Floridians from Rising Energy Costs

Dear Governor Ron D. DeSantis,

I write to you today as a concerned resident of Florida and an active member of the climate activist community in our state. We are facing a grave issue that demands your immediate attention: the relentless utility price hikes inflicted by utilities such as FPL, Duke Energy, and TECO. It is imperative that you take swift and decisive action to regulate these unjustified increases and shield Floridians from further financial hardship.

Florida is already burdened with exorbitant property insurance rates and surging housing costs - most people can't afford double-digit utility rate increases. The unchecked and relentless utility rate hikes requested by these monopolies only compound the struggles faced by individuals and families across our state. What exacerbates this injustice is the fact that these monopolies continue to amass record profits while Floridians are left grappling with the consequences.

As Commissioners of the Public Service Commission, you bear the responsibility to be the voice of the people and the guardian of their rights. We demand that you fulfill your duty by taking immediate and concrete steps to regulate utility prices, ensuring they remain fair, affordable, and sustainable for all Floridians. By implementing effective regulation, you possess the power to prevent further price spikes and shield our communities from the detrimental impact of these monopolistic practices.

I implore you to heed our call for action without delay. By regulating utility spikes, you can profoundly impact the lives of countless Floridians, particularly the most vulnerable among us.

Time is of the essence, and we eagerly await your immediate response and firm commitment to protecting the interests of Floridians. Let us work together to create a brighter and more equitable future for our beloved Sunshine State.

Sincerely,

Linda Purrazzella

UNIT 4233 1 Fort Pierce, FL 34949

purrazz@gmail.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.

Yvette Gillespie

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 3:09 PM
To: 'purrazz@gmail.com'
Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

Ms. Linda Purrazzella
purrazz@gmail.com

RE: FPSC Inquiry 1429644C

Dear Ms. Purrazzella:

The Governor's office forwarded a copy of your email regarding Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) 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. You expressed a concern about the fuel cost adjustment.

The fuel cost charge allows the utility to recover the actual expenses associated with securing and processing fuel necessary to run the power plants used to generate electricity. Fuel rates mirror rising and falling fuel costs as reflected in the international marketplace. The revenue generated by the fuel adjustment charge does not add to the profit of the utility companies, but goes to pay fuel suppliers and transporters. The cost of fuel is shown as a separate cents per kilowatt-hour charge, and fuel costs are not contained in any other charge on your bill.

Each year, utilities file their projected fuel expenses for the upcoming calendar year. The FPSC, along with the Office of Public Counsel and other consumer representatives closely examine the fuel costs requested by the utilities. Public hearings are held annually to set the fuel factors for the next year. 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. If the utility recovered more than its actual costs, the amount of over-recovery is used to reduce the next year's costs. If the utility under-recovered (costs were higher than expected) that deficit is likewise rolled into the next year. The fuel cost adjustment is recognized by virtually all state commissions, by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and is also used by most municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives.

On March 7, 2023, the FPSC approved a mid-course correction to the fuel factors and granted preliminary interim storm restoration charge for FPL.

Utilities do not earn a profit on fuel charges. The fuel and capacity cost component of customers' bills is set for each calendar year, but mid-course corrections are used when a utility's costs increase or decrease significantly in the interim. Under Commission rules, a utility must notify the PSC when it expects an under- or over-recovery greater than 10 percent.

The adjusted fuel factors reflect unrecovered fuel costs incurred in 2022. The interim storm restoration recovery charges are costs associated with named storms and will replenish each utility's storm reserve fund. Interim storm restoration charges are approved for a 12-month recovery period and are subject to refund, with interest, pending further review once the total actual costs are known for each utility.

FPL's approved charges include the new fuel factor and the preliminary approval for recovery of \$1.5 billion in interim storm restoration costs for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, as well as the remaining costs from Hurricanes Michael, Sally, and Zeta.

We appreciate you sharing your views and will add your correspondence to both Dockets 20230001 and 20230017 regarding the mid-course correction and the storm restoration recovery, respectively.

Customers who are experiencing difficulty in providing payment on their account can contact the following resources for financial assistance:

* Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program --- <https://www.floridajobs.org/community-planning-and-development/community-services/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program/find-your-local-low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-provider-for-help>

* Elderly Electric Assistance (EHEAP), which provides assistance for home-energy emergencies to qualified, low-income households with at least one person 60 years of age or older. To find out about qualifications, you may contact your county's local EHEAP agency, or by calling 1-800-963-5337.

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 Analyst IV
Florida Public Service Commission
Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
1-800-342-3552 (phone)
1-800-511-0809 (fax)