

**From:** Nickalus Holmes on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, September 15, 2025 9:07 AM  
**To:** 'tony fernandez'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Docket No. 20250023-WS ...

Good Morning

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20250023, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance.

Thank you,  
Nick Holmes  
Commission Deputy Clerk II  
Office of Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
850-413-6770

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**From:** tony fernandez <newmaninchrist28@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 14, 2025 5:54 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20250023-WS ...

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Good day, Commissioners,

As a customer of Grenelefe Utility, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed water and wastewater rate increases outlined in Docket No. 20250023-WS.

The proposed rate hike—from approximately \$30 per month to over \$300 per month—is neither fair nor reasonable. Such a drastic and immediate increase appears inconsistent with the Commission's statutory duty under Section 367.081(1), Florida Statutes, which mandates that utility rates be "just, reasonable, compensatory, and not unfairly discriminatory." Rates must reflect a careful balance between the utility's right to recover prudent costs and the public's right to affordable, essential services.

While I recognize that Grenelefe Utility faces legitimate infrastructure and environmental compliance challenges, the current proposal places an overwhelming financial burden on existing customers, rather than allocating costs equitably among new development and growth.

Florida law grants the Commission the authority to:

- Require that new development and future growth contribute their fair share of capacity costs through plant capacity charges (§367.081(2)(a), Fla. Stat.), rather than disproportionately impacting existing customers;
- Allow for the recovery of major capital investments over an extended period, minimizing rate shock and ensuring affordability;
- Evaluate and consider alternative funding sources—such as grants, low-interest loans, or state/federal assistance—before approving extreme rate increases.

Accordingly, I respectfully urge the Commission to:

- Reject the proposed rate structure as currently filed;
- Direct Grenelefe Utility to submit a revised plan that phases in any necessary increases gradually and equitably;
- Ensure that developers and new connections bear appropriate responsibility for growth-related costs, in line with statutory guidance and Commission precedent.

The current proposal would effectively double-charge many homeowners who have already contributed to system capacity through the purchase of their homes. It would severely impact residents—particularly seniors and families living on fixed incomes—and jeopardize local property values.

I respectfully ask that the Commission fulfill its responsibility under Florida law to ensure that rates remain fair, just, and reasonable for all customers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jose Garcia

Grenelefe property owner