

Nickalus Holmes

From: Nickalus Holmes on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2025 4:14 PM
To: 'Jesenia Martinez'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket : 20250023 - Grenelefe Water rate increase

Good Afternoon

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: Jesenia Martinez <jmar2501@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2025 4:12 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket : 20250023 - Grenelefe Water rate increase

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Ladies and gentlemen of the commission,

Thank you for allowing me the chance to speak today at the meeting - 09/15/2025. My name is Jesenia Martinez, and I stand before you as a member of this community, having recently made Grenelefe my forever home after spending over 35 years in Miami. I left Miami seeking a more affordable life for my family, hoping to find stability and a fresh start here. But now, with the proposed 300% increase in water rates looming over us, I find myself filled with concern and uncertainty.

Water is essential—it's vital to our daily lives, our health, and our livelihoods. When I moved here, I believed I had found a place where my family could thrive without the burden of overwhelming expenses. I'm now worried that this drastic increase will force us into a position we cannot manage. My daughter, a single mother, and I care for my family, including my grandchild. With a family of five, we already face challenges in making ends meet, and this potential hike feels like an insurmountable obstacle.

Imagine the stress as we try to navigate everyday expenses now compounded by this proposed increase. It's not just about numbers on a bill; it's about families like mine who are trying their hardest to build a life here. What happens if we can't afford the water? Will we have to consider moving again, uprooting our lives and leaving behind a community we've just begun to call home? I shudder to think of the impact this could have on not only my family but our neighbors as well.

Moreover, I worry about the implications for our community. Families may not be able to stay if a 300% increase becomes a reality. I can't help but think about how this decision could push people out of their homes, making Grenelefe less vibrant and welcoming.

While I understand there may be necessary reasons for this proposed increase, I urge you to explore other options. Can we find ways to incrementally increase rates instead of imposing such a massive jump? Are there grants or partnerships we could seek to ease the burden on families like mine?

I genuinely ask that you listen to our concerns and engage with us. Together, we can seek solutions that maintain the integrity of our water services without compromising the livelihoods of our residents. Let's work towards a future where every family in Grenelefe can thrive without the fear of losing access to something as fundamental as water.

We beg you as a community to please vote no on this increase.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jesenia Martinez

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