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09 JUN 24 AM 10:46

COMMISSION CLERK

Petition for increase in rates by

# Florida Power & Light Company

DOCKET NO. 080677-EI

RECEIVED-FPSC  
09 JUN 25 AM 9:44  
COMMISSION CLERK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Nigro Jr  
PO Box 834  
Venice FL 34284-0834

941-496-9252

P.S. "YES" I DO HAVE  
A 5W- PHOTO VEELEC  
CELL ON MY HOUSE

If you want to let the Public Service Commission know how you feel about this case, you may fill out this comment form and return it by mail, or send a fax to 1-800-511-0809.

Correspondence will be placed in the file of this docket.

You may QUOTE ME ON ANY & ALL OF BELOW

### CONSUMER COMMENTS

I WAS PRESENT AT MEETING HOWEVER I HAD A 40'S NO. SO DIDN'T GET CHANCE TO SPEAK IF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> 20+ FOLKS - HAD SOME RESPECT FOR US OTHERS & KEPT JUST TO 1 OR 2 MIN. EACH I COULD HAVE SPOKEN. IN ANY EVENT HERE IS MY DIRECT STATEMENT: 1<sup>ST</sup> I DIDDO - EVERY SINGLE WORD OF MR. LAMPL. IN ADDITION "YES" I'M FOR F.P.L. TO GET THERE 31% & EVEN MORE. YOU KNOW Y? BECAUSE THE "SUN" WILL PAY FOR IT ALL!! A CORP, THE MAGNITUDE OF F.P.L. NEEDS \$ TO KEEP GOIN! THIS WOULD MAKE INSTANT - JOBS! EVERY SINGLE ROOF SHOULD HAVE A SOLAR VEC. SYSTEM, TO GET AWAY FROM OIL DEMANDS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WHO HATE US & LOVE ONLY OUR "EATERS" (\$) HOW BOUT OUR G.I.'S GETTING KILLED OVER THIS OIL?? NOT FAIR - NOT AT ALL. I'D "LOVE" 2-C.

SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA B SOULY ACCREDITED FOR A MODEL - FREE - ELECTRIC - COUNTY. I AM A 38 YR. CUSTOMER OF F.P.L. & DAMN WELL SATISFIED. JOE JR.

DOCUMENT NUMBER 06348

JUN 24 8

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK



STAMP

Florida Public Service Commission  
Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

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09 JUN 24 AM 7:35

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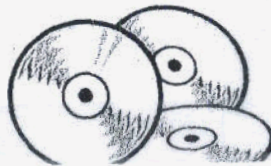
Thank you, Joe, Jr. and Frubes

Joe Nigro, Jr.  
(941) 496-9252  
P.O. Box 834

Venice, Florida 34284

DooWopJoeJr@verizon.net

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*I have been a serious collector for 51 years.*

Since I really "hate" to part with it  
I would consider being a 50% partner.



For info Contact: **Joe, Jr.**  
at (941) 496-9252 or cell (941) 488-2418 or e-mail: [doowopjoejr@verizon.net](mailto:doowopjoejr@verizon.net)  
or P.O. Box 834, Venice, Florida 34284



**MARCELLA LEVIN**  
1111 N. GULF STREAM AVENUE, APT. 3B  
SARASOTA, FL 34236  
(941) 364-9354  
MARCELLART@AOL.COM

DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
09 JUN 29 AM 7:40  
RECEIVED-FPSC  
09 JUN 29 AM 9:27  
COMMISSION  
CLERK

June 26, 2009

Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of the Commission Clerk  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0650

Re: Docket # 080677-EI

Dear Commissioners,

I arrived too late to sign on as a speaker at the hearing held in the City of Sarasota, so this is my testimony.

I am opposed to the Florida Power and Light proposed rate increase. In your literature, you asked this question: "Why is FPL requesting a base rate increase?" and answered with this: "FPL is requesting a base rate increase to earn a fair rate of return on its investment and to cover increasing operating costs."

**Fair Rate of Return:** As one City Commissioner said coming out of the hearing, "A 10.2% rate of return is great! We should invest the entire City of Sarasota Retirement Fund in FPL with that rate of return. You can't get that rate anywhere else." And FPL wants more than the allowable maximum of 11.75%. Just because....

As I understand it, compensation for FPL officers is based on the rate of return. There is the \$18 million base salary that the FPL CEO earns and then there is other compensation based on the rate of return. From what I have learned, even the members of the Board of Directors earn \$2 million per year for their service. Then there is the corporate jet and associated perqs which are offered to top executives. It seems that FPL has not had to do any of the belt-tightening that the rest of the corporate world has done and that ordinary citizens have had to do. It seems that FPL is out-of-touch with the economic situation that faces us out here in the real world.

**Increasing Operating Costs:** While most of us have had to absorb increasing operating costs, FPL quickly applied for a rate increase to cover the escalating cost of fuel oil back when we were paying \$4+ per gallon. I could understand that request. However, where is our refund because the price of fuel has fallen? FPL keeps the money and cites increasing operating costs. They pass along to the rate payer any tax that comes along. What costs are increasing for them?



**Plight of the Poor in the City of Sarasota:** I serve as a volunteer at St. Martha Caritas. I came late to the start of the hearing because I was involved with clients. Caritas is a 30+ year old association of five downtown City of Sarasota churches. Each church collects money from its own congregation to help the poor and needy. The Caritas association operates from a trailer on the grounds of St. Martha Catholic Church, Monday-Friday, 9-11 a.m., each church taking a day. As part of its collective work, Caritas also operates a Food Pantry which is located in the First Baptist Church, same days/hours. Again, Caritas is an all volunteer association.

Caritas rules state that an applicant may receive financial assistance once per year; other services such as access to the Food Pantry, help with medications, clothing, etc. are limited to three times per year. No cash is given to applicants. Caritas requires that a person seeking help with payment of an FPL bill have in hand a "Final Notice" (a notice that a disconnect is imminent). Prior to 2008, Caritas was able to help with \$100 per Final Notice bill. These days, St. Martha Caritas helps with \$75. Most of the other churches in the Caritas association are able to help with only \$50.

In FY 2008-09, St. Martha Caritas received \$5,000 in FEMA funds and dispensed all of it in payment of Final Notice FPL bills. In FY 2009-2010, St. Martha Caritas will receive \$11,250 in FEMA funds, all of which will be dispensed in payment of Final Notice FPL bills. The rule with FEMA funds is that a payment to a utility must cover the 30-day period that caused the account to go into potential disconnect status.

When FEMA money is gone, help will continue as long as our parishioners make sacrifices and contribute to Caritas. Keep in mind, however, that St. Martha Church has had to lay off six Church Office workers because donations are down. Can you just imagine what will happen to St. Martha Church, to Caritas and then to our applicants when a 31% FPL increase goes into effect?

**An example of the need in the community:** In April 2009, St. Martha Caritas helped 42 families with Final Notice FPL bills: 22 of those bills were paid from \$1,470.92 in Caritas funds; 20 bills were paid with \$3,178.31 in FEMA funds. To repeat, that's 42 families who were in trouble and could not pay their FPL bill; 42 families in the month of April 2009 alone who were in danger of having their service disconnected. Caritas helps at least 40 new families per month with Final Notice FPL bills. Upon request, I can supply additional documentation for the numbers of people Caritas has helped with payment of FPL Final Notice bills from 2008 on.

In the June 26, 2009 Business section of the *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, there are 30 Public Notices of Foreclosure Action or Foreclosure Sale of private homes and condos as well as three Public Notices for foreclosure of business properties and/or assets. The economy is in the cellar; people have lost jobs and homes; families are hurting. There is no identified need for an FPL base rate increase at this time except it's been 25 years and they want it.

**Scary Testimony:** The testimony that really scared me at the June 19, 2009 hearing was that from a woman whose hours were cut back and eventually she and her husband lost

their jobs so they missed an FPL payment and because of that missed payment, they were asked to pay a \$400 deposit. If you can't pay the original bill, how does requiring a large deposit help anything? Again, the practice demonstrates a complete ignorance of these economic times, just a need to shore up the bottom line.

**FPL as Good Neighbor:** I heard testimony from people with jobs who detailed the help that FPL has given to their organization, school, business, etc. [In the effort at full disclosure, FPL recently became a sponsor at the \$250 level of an Emergency Preparedness Conference for People With Disabilities in which I was involved. FPL had a table at which they dispensed literature about how to survive a hurricane.]

At the June 19 Public Hearing, I listened carefully to the Salvation Army representative from Tampa detail how FPL has set them up with a fund that helps people pay rent, mortgage and other bills. We know that SA administers other funds to help pay for FPL bills: Care to Share (FPL rate payers contributions), LIHEAP, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), FEMA. We, at Caritas, know how quickly the Sarasota Salvation Army runs out of funds because people come to us after they have been turned down by SA because of lack of funds. Although the SA rep testified how wonderful FPL was, I did not hear her testify about the great need in the community, despite the FPL contribution. The size of FPL bills is one of the causes of the great need in our community.

**Lobbying:** I heard a retired lawyer testify that, based on his utility rates when he lived elsewhere in the country, FPL rates are low. He said that even though he is a retired lawyer on a fixed income, he wouldn't mind paying \$12 a month more. He failed to mention FPL rates as a percentage of local average incomes compared to the place he came from. I also heard a professional caterer testify to the prompt service restoration during a power outage, which saved the day and several catered events. Then, I wondered, who takes time out of a busy day to advocate on behalf of a monopoly that wants a rate increase? Could there be lobbying at work here? And then I wondered how much we rate payers are subsidizing the lobbying firms that work for FPL?

**Summary:** FPL senior executives earn millions of dollars in salaries per year. With this 31% rate increase, these same executives will increase their personal remuneration. In addition, they have access to a corporate jet and assorted other perks. Members of the Board of Directors earn in the millions of dollars each year. I assume they have stock options, as well. FPL has asked for a base rate increase just because it's been a long time since they had one. They have no plans to do anything to merit the rate increase. They will use the money to shore up their bottom line.

FPL asked for and received a rate increase to cover the increase in fuel oil when it rose to over \$4 a gallon. FPL has not reduced our bills because the cost of fuel oil has declined. FPL collected \$11.4 million in voluntary rate payer contributions through the Sunshine Energy program and used only 20% of the fund for renewable energy development; the rest went for their expenses. It seems that FPL is not as good a good neighbor as some would purport it to be. FPL has not demonstrated its need for a rate increase of any amount.

*Marcella Levin*

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**Florida Power & Light Company**

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09 JUN 29 AM 9:33

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Name Rich Vannucci

Address 13466 Heritage Way  
Sarasota, FL 34240

If you want to let the Public Service Commission know how you feel about this case, you may fill out this comment form and return it by mail, or send a fax to 1-800-511-0809. Correspondence will be placed in the file of this docket.

CONSUMER COMMENTS

FPL HAS →

Great service in providing free energy surveys for homes, churches, schools & businesses.

It is time to look for alternative fuel services - and it is going to cost a bit more - but will save our money our lifestyle & our earth in near future.



Petition for increase in rates by  
**Florida Power & Light Company**

DOCKET NO. 080677-EI

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09 JUL 15 AM 10:38  
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Name Joyce Giordano

Address P.O. Box 48787

Sarasota/Englewood, FL 34223 34230

If you want to let the Public Service Commission know how you feel about this case, you may fill out this comment form and return it by mail, or send a fax to 1-800-511-0809. Correspondence will be placed in the file of this docket.

**CONSUMER COMMENTS**

I have lived in FL over 30 years and FPL has always been my electric company. As a resident & business owner I support the rate increase. As a resident I have experienced unquestionable customer service. I feel the funds will be used to further their impact in development of more efficient ways to power homes & business with less impact to the environment. All costs will go up, they always do. This company has a proven track record with me & the historical data proves it. Paying your people fair wages leads to job satisfaction which leads to innovation & excellent customer service. A company that reaches out to its community both locally & state wide should and does make a difference in the lives of the customer they serve.

Fold and tape -- see back for address