

Please!
Do not increase my Electric
bill. We are trying hard to just
survive. Senior are suffering
greatly. Don 81 years old
& having a hard time
paying Bill now

June public hearing offers chance to weigh in on FPL's rate hike plan

There are several ways to weigh in, and one opportunity is coming up in West Palm Beach on June 15.

The Florida Public Service Commission has tentatively scheduled the meeting for 6 p.m. at the Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority, 7501 N. Jog Road, West Palm Beach.

The hearing is one of nine expected to be held around the state. The first is set for June 2 in Fort Myers, and the last on June 29 in Miami Gardens.

FPL, headquartered in Juno Beach, is requesting approval for a \$1.3 billion rate proposal to help pay for infrastructure improvements that will continue service reliability for its 4.8 million customers. The utility asserts that its proposed increases would cover the costs of strengthening power

lines, three large solar energy centers, and completion of a natural gas plant in Okeechobee County, according to its filing.

The base rates for the typical 1,000-kilowatt-hour monthly bill would increase 23.3 percent from \$57 in April 2016 to \$65.60 in 2017, \$68.20 in 2018 and \$70.28 in 2019, with no change in 2020.

If you do not wish to comment publicly at a hearing, you can send your comments to the attention of the PSC docket's number of interest (FPL's docket number is 160021), 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850.

You may also call the PSC's toll-free number, 800-342-3552, fax comments to 800-511-0809, or file comments electronically at: Contact@psc.state.fl.us.

— SUSAN SALISBURY, PROTECTING YOUR POCKET

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COMMISSION
CLERK