

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 11:08 AM
To: 'joates@cox.net'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket Number 160186-E1 - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Oates:

Thank you for contacting the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) about Gulf Power Company's (Gulf) rate increase petition. Your correspondence is included in Gulf's rate case docket file (No. 160186-E1) to give Commissioners and staff an opportunity to review and understand your concerns.

Service hearings are scheduled in Pensacola on January 26 and in Panama City on January 27. I encourage you to attend one of the hearings, so that you can directly speak to the Commissioners. All customer comments—written and verbal—become a part of the record and will be reviewed and considered when PSC staff prepares its recommendation to the Commissioners on Gulf's petition.

Gulf's technical hearing before the PSC will be in March in Tallahassee. Witnesses from the utility, the Commission staff, the Office of Public Counsel (representing Gulf customers), and other intervenors in the case will present testimony, introduce exhibits, and be cross-examined before the Commissioners. Commissioners will review Gulf's need for a rate increase, its existing and proposed rate structure, and its ability to provide safe and reliable service.

Commissioners are charged with making sure that Florida's utility companies fulfill their service obligation. In its petition, Gulf based its request on several factors, including transmission projects and replacing and repairing infrastructure. The PSC will ensure that final customer rates reflect only those costs that are prudent and necessary for Gulf to deliver quality electric service.

You can find Gulf rate case information on the PSC's website, www.FloridaPSC.com. Access the Clerk's Office tab, then hit Dockets and type in Docket No. 160186. All case submissions can be found in the Documents Filing Index. If you have additional questions or need further assistance, please call PSC Consumer Assistance at 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

Bev DeMello
Assistant Director

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

From: joates@cox.net [<mailto:joates@cox.net>]
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Docket Number 160186-E1

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing you to ask that you deny Gulf Power's request for a rate increase under Docket Number 160186-E1. I have been a Florida resident for over 30 years. As a recent retiree, I am overwhelmed with the rising costs of basic services.

Food prices are so high; and this month, I have been informed of increases in my cable service, security system, waste disposal service, dental insurance, health insurance, car insurance, and home insurance. I am trying to live within my means---I have basic cable, basic phone service, shop at WalMart, and try to control expenditures. Social Security gave a miniscule Cost of Living increase, but it was more than eaten up with increased Medicare costs. My friends and neighbors who are still in the work force do not get an increase in salary anywhere near the 6.9% increase Gulf Power is requesting. This increase for consumers seems excessive and will be a hardship for many.

Please tell Gulf Power that their stockholders will have to live with smaller returns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanne E. Oates