

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 10:26 AM
To: 'Peggy Childers'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase Request

Dear Ms. Childers:

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-EI) 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

From: Peggy Childers [<mailto:cookiespkc@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 3:33 PM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Gulf Power rate increase

Being a Florida resident since 1958, I am aware that the PSC has rarely (if ever) not granted Gulf Power rate increases. However, now that I am retired after 32 years of service in the community college system, I want to express my sincere concern that there may be another increase (\$10+) to residential customers!

The \$10 seems excessive...as you can understand, if all utilities and other companies keep increasing at that

rate, those of us on limited incomes will once, again, be "behind the 8 ball"....it would seem to me Gulf Power might consider increasing at a lower rate for residential customers so it will not burden the customer! I am sure there are other areas where rate increases might come about..especially for businesses! Looking at the percentage rate, 6.9%..I am sure you are aware that social security recipients received a total of \$4 monthly increase (what an insult)...and Gulf Power is demanding \$10 increase! There has got to be a better solution for all concerned.

I encourage the PSC to help consumers and if you must award an increase, please have a percentage more in line with the customers, especially those retirees who, honestly, can't continue to pay these increases from all agencies who demand them!

Thank you,

Peggy K Childers
Milton FL