

**Ashley Quick**

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**From:** Janet Brunson  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** 'nevetsw73@gmail.com'  
**Cc:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket No. 160168-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase Request

Dear Mr. White:

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.

January service hearings were held in Pensacola and Panama City. 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](http://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:** Steven White [<mailto:nevetsw73@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2017 10:19 PM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Cc:** Janet Brunson  
**Subject:** Gulf Power Company Rate Case

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am writing to you in regards to your consideration of the requested rate increase by Gulf Power which you will deliberate tomorrow. I respectfully request that this request not be granted. Gulf Power has indicated slower than projected customer growth rates and a drop in average per customer power consumption as the main impetus behind their rate increase request in order to provide adequate return on its investments.

However, the continued decrease in per customer power consumption and persisting slower than projected customer growth would seem to indicate that the level of investments into the system to insure adequate power supply would correspondingly decrease as well.

While Gulf Power has touted that its customers have recently seen the largest ever rate decreases this is due only to the currently historically low costs of fuel, which Gulf Power also benefits from. I can assure you that my power bills over the last 16 year that I have lived in Northwest Florida have only continued to climb.

I respectfully ask that you deny the current rate increase placed before you and ask Gulf Power, and its parent company, Southern Company, to make the same type of hard decisions that any of the residents in Northwest Florida are faced to make when a budgetary shortfall is experienced. We aren't simply able to require our employers to pay us more, and Gulf Power shouldn't be allowed to operate in this manner either.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Steven White