

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2017 9:41 AM
To: 'Peter Heckathorn'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: RE: Gulf Power Rate Request

Dear Mr. Heckathorn:

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. 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: Peter Heckathorn [<mailto:peter.heckathorn@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 10:39 PM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Gulf Power Rate Request

Gulf Power's rate requests is clearly not appropriate:

- Inflation has been running 1-1.5% for the last several years
- Energy prices have dropped dramatically and all forecasts continue to show that energy costs will stay muted.
- Salary and other costs of doing business should not rise more than about 2% per the FED.
- A raise of 6.9% is clearly unwarranted.

- A base rate manipulation to place more fixed costs defines logic:

- It discourages conservation and encourages utilization
- Increased utilization builds an argument for the GA plant's costs to be transferred to Florida or worse to then build an argument to build a new bigger plant here..

Finally an investigation should be run to determine if GP used any monies or human resources charged to rate payers to run its solar power amendment.

Thank you.