

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 11:52 AM
To: 'dorinda.lech@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Lech:

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: Dorinda Lech [<mailto:dorinda.lech@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:43 AM
To: Records Clerk
Subject: Proposed Gulf Power rate increase

To Whom It May Concern:

The proposed increase would negatively impact my household budget obviously along with the many other people who are forced to use Gulf Power as the supplier of our energy needs. It is not like we have a choice in who we do business with. They have a monopoly on the product and we are basically stuck with them. Solar

and wind energy are outside the bounds of many household incomes including mine. I walk around in the dark and keep the blinds drawn during the day to keep the house cooler. I also run a window fan whenever the temperatures or weather outside allows. I am on budget billing, don't use the oven, wash clothes on weekends and watch every kilowatt we can in order to save on energy; however, I live in a 65 year old home and there is little more I can do to save. The Gulf Power energy audit is admirable except for one thing, where Does a person come up with the extra money to upgrade windows etc.? I am disabled and my husband thankfully still works. Yes, we pay our bills. We live a small life and every time Gulf Power wants to raise rates in order to satisfy their shareholders and pay their executives, my small life gets smaller. I suggest they find a way to use the large amount of money they now receive in better ways that serve us instead of picking our pockets for their desires and their personal wish lists. I live on a fixed budget and I respectfully suggest that Gulf Power do the same.

Sincerely,
Dorinda E Lech
Pensacola, FL