

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 10:38 AM
To: 'b.sheffield@cox.net'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160168-EI - Gulf Power Company Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Sheffield:

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: Blaine Sheffield [<mailto:b.sheffield@cox.net>]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Records Clerk
Subject: Gulf Power Requested Rate Increase

William Sheffield
4383 Stonebridge Road
Destin, Fl 32541
Docket Number 160186

Gulf Power's proposed fixed or base rate increase from what is currently being charged is an increase of over 250%. This proposed amount of \$48.09 is over 5 times the amount of the next highest Utility company in Florida (Duke Energy). For the elderly on fixed income, such as myself, this increase would negatively impact our ability to have funds needed for our basic monthly needs.

I request the Florida Public Service Commission please consider what negative impact on the elderly this increase would force and consider no increase or a minimum of bringing Gulf Power in line with other Florida Utility Company's base rates.