

February 9, 2019

Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oaks Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

COMMISSION  
SECRET

2019 FEB 25 AM 8:50

RECEIVED-PPSC

Dkt #: 20190038

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you to request that you do not grant the Storm Restoration Surcharge requested by Gulf Power.

We are, here in Bay County, all struggling to pay for our losses due to Hurricane Michael ...in my case the cost of repairs to my home exceeds my insurance coverage by over \$25,000 . I will have to pay for my losses and Gulf Power should have to pay for their losses without burdening their subscribers further. We are already burdened by paying for their Energy and Fuel . As you can see on the attached copy of my bill that my usage amounted to only \$19.20 but after applying all the extra fees and charges I must pay \$181.49. Other parts of the state do not pay these large fees.....why do the citizens of this county have to pay so much?

Sincerely,,

  
Montyna Kelly



Customer Name  
MONTYNA M KELLY

Account Number  
01790-93040

Current Amount  
Delinquent After  
**Total Due** Jan 3, 2019  
**\$ 181.49**

**Current Electric Service - RS - Residential Service**

Next Scheduled Read Date: On or after Jan 14, 2019

Service Period	Meter #	Reading Type	Meter Reading		x	Constant	= Usage
			Current	Previous			
Nov 13 - Dec 13	7376674	Tot kWh	98745	97506	1		1,239

**Billing Period**  
Nov 13, 2018 - Dec 13, 2018

Base Charge		\$ 19.20
Energy Charge	1239 kWh x 0.07931	99.27
Fuel Charge	1239 kWh x 0.02949	36.54

**Subtotal of Electric Service \$ 154.01**

State Sales Tax - Lighting		0.00
Florida Gross Receipts Tax	<del>TAX</del>	3.95
Franchise Fee for Panama City	<del>FEE</del>	9.73
City Tax for Panama City		13.80

**Total Current Electric Service \$ 181.49**

**Convenient Payment Programs**

**Paperless Billing** Pay your electric bill with a mouse click. It's quick, easy, and convenient. To sign up, call 1-800-225-5797 or visit [gulfpower.com/paperless](http://gulfpower.com/paperless)

**Auto Pay** Save time and effort. Auto pay is a free bill payment option - you can authorize your bill amount to be automatically debited from your checking or savings account. For information, call 1-800-225-5797 or to sign up, visit [gulfpower.com/autopay](http://gulfpower.com/autopay)

**Credit Card** Credit card payments are only accepted by independent automated payment services, which are not affiliated with Gulf Power or Southern Company. These independent services charge a fee to process the payments. To pay by phone, call 1-800-831-6502; or, visit our website and select "Pay My Bill" for the credit card option.

# Gulf Power requests hurricane surcharge

**Residential customers could see \$8 added to their monthly bills**

By Jim Thompson  
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PENSACOLA — Gulf Power has filed a plan with the Florida Public Service Commission to add a storm restoration surcharge to electricity bills to recover \$342 million in costs associated with Hurricane Michael.

In the aftermath of the storm, Gulf Power, which serves almost 500,000 customers in eight Northwest Florida counties, was faced with restoring power to 136,000 customers and rebuilding its electrical grid, according to a Wednesday news release from the company.

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## POWER

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According to the release, Gulf Power is proposing an \$8.21 per month surcharge for residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month. According to the federal Energy Information Administration, average monthly household electrical consumption in Florida is 1,123 kilowatt-hours.

For residential customers, the surcharge would "keep Gulf Power customer bills lower than January 2018," according to the news release. At that time, the monthly Gulf Power bill for 1,000 kilowatt-hours of residential electricity was \$144, including the state's 2.5 percent utility tax. Monthly bills dropped to \$131.28 in April 2018 as the result of federal corporate tax reform. Bills also dropped by more than \$2 to \$128.86 in January of this year because of continuing tax reform savings and other factors.

If the PSC approves Gulf Power's request, the bill for 1,000 kilowatt-hours of residential electricity will rise to \$137.07 in April, according to the Gulf Power news release.

In addition to the residential surcharge, Gulf Power's proposal would boost bills for commercial and industrial customers by 3 percent to 8 percent each month.

According to the news release, Gulf Power "proposes to spread the storm restoration surcharges over five years," contending that doing so will ensure that customers "will continue to experience a significant portion of the savings delivered over the last year." Thus, the surcharge would appear on Gulf Power customer's bills for five years, utility spokesman Rick Delahaya confirmed Wednesday.



**Workers install power poles in Mexico Beach in the immediate aftermath of October's Hurricane Michael, which devastated the eastern Panhandle.** [LANNIS WATERS/PALM BEACH POST]

"We know that many of our customers continue to face challenges due to the aftermath of Hurricane Michael," Gulf Power President Marlene Santos said in the news release, "and we have worked hard to propose a plan to the Florida Public Service Commission that takes this into account and supports our ability to continue to serve them with reliable service now and into the future."

Gulf Power maintains a storm-recovery reserve, but for any expenses not covered by those funds, the company must request a surcharge through the PSC. Gulf Power depleted what had been a \$48 million storm reserve in responding to Hurricane Michael, according to Delahaya.

"Michael was an unprecedented storm," Delahaya wrote in an email, "and the magnitude of the recovery effort depleted our entire storm reserve."

Making its case for the surcharge, Gulf Power noted in its news release that during recovery efforts from a massive storm like Michael, electric utilities incur "all the upfront costs of power restoration and rebuilding, including out-of-town crews, plus their housing, meals and transportation, security and more. Costs also include fuel for trucks, tree trimming, poles, transformers and power lines and many

other materials." Almost four months after the hurricane, Gulf Power crews continue to re-connect customers to the power grid as they have their homes and businesses repaired, according to the news release.

**K**

**MONTYNA KELLY**

204 Harrison Pl  
Panama City, FL 32405

PENSACOLA FL 325

DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
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