

CORRESPONDENCE
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Florida Public Service Commission
Office of Commission Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dkt #: 20200051

Dear Commission,

This letter comes in reference to the June 8, 2020, Peoples Gas System (Peoples or Utility) application with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) for a rate increase. I understand that People's rates have not been increased since 2009 and the request is based on the organization's desire to recover the cost of operating the utility and allow the company the opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on its investment. However, I firmly believe that a pandemic season that has presented financial hardships for many Floridians is the time to raise rates on a resource that is needed for daily life.

Peoples currently serves more than 400,000 residential, commercial, and industrial natural gas customers in 14 geographical service areas. Many of whom have been financially impacted by the circumstances of COVID-19. For example, my wife and I, both life-long Florida residents, live on a fixed income. We have been extremely cautious with our finances since the pandemic season. If increases in daily life necessities, such as natural gas, increase, it will add to the strain on our budget during these uncertain times.

Therefore, I ask that the commission consider tabling the approval of a rate increase and revisit the Peoples Gas System's request during a more stable financial time for Floridians.

With respect,

Ralph Daniels, Sr.

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