

**Jacob Veughn**

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**From:** Jacob Veughn on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, August 9, 2021 8:23 AM  
**To:** 'Anthony LaBarbara'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Vote NO on Utility Rate Increases!

Good Morning, Anthony LaBarbara

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20210015 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

**Jacob Veughn**

Commission Deputy Clerk I  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
[Jacob.Veughn@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Jacob.Veughn@psc.state.fl.us)  
850.413.6656

**From:** Anthony LaBarbara <anthonyclabarbara@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 10:15 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Utility Rate Increases!

Dear Florida Public Service Commissioners,

Florida Power & Light (FPL) is planning to increase bills for their customers, which would impact us all. In addition to profiting off unsustainable global warming polluting energy resources, FPL was one of several power companies that resumed closing customer accounts due to non-payment during the second wave of the pandemic. The heatwave in the Pacific Northwest, the California wildfires, and the Texas freeze are the alarm bells of the climate emergency. In the midst of rising temperatures, due to climate change, disconnecting people from their electricity is a matter of life and death for many Floridians. We are demanding that Florida Power & Light halt this unjust and dangerous practice and that Florida's Public Service Commission require FPL to institute a disconnection policy during extreme heat/cold days, maintain fair rates for their consumers, and prioritize the communities that are hit the hardest and on the frontlines of the climate, pandemic, and economic crisis.

The climate crisis threatens everything that Floridians hold dear, including our parks, our beaches, and our drinking water. Yet, Florida's largest utility companies want to build even more dirty fossil fuel infrastructure and raise our power bills to pay for it. This will only make seas rise higher, storms get stronger and destructive, and days hotter and more dangerous.

Floridians are just beginning to recover from a pandemic that created financial hardships for countless families

and businesses. But right now, FPL is attempting the largest rate increase in Florida history locking customers into higher bills by raising rates nearly 18-20%, increasing fees and minimum monthly bills, and denying customers helpful options to make bills more affordable. Approving a \$2 billion rate increase now creates a crisis within a crisis for so many Floridians and the Public Service Commission should reject these requests.

Please prioritize Florida families and vote NO to increasing utility rates!

Sincerely,

Anthony LaBarbara

[anthonyclabarbara@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyclabarbara@gmail.com) 11223