

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 2:10 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Re:

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached email in Docket No. 20210016.

Hannah E. Branum
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
[2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.](#)
[Tallahassee, FL 32399](#)
(850) 413-6004

From: richard goodburlet <goodburlet@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 04, 2022 8:30 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Re:

Gary,

Your explanation is bogus and you know it, as I assume you have at least a minimum amount of intelligence but perhaps I give you too much credit with that statement. I am aware of the almost infinite amounts of money power generators have as I work in the power generation industry, so please do not insult my intelligence. How can you defend my bill increasing 300%? The rates based on the cost of service you referenced makes no sense as I have a cost but get zero service for that cost. It is just a random amount set by a commission who has their hands very deep into the pockets of companies like Duke and FP&L as solar power is not in their best interest.

Electricity is like beer, if you consume it, you pay for it. You state: This ensures that other Duke customers are not subsidizing low use customer accounts. So you feel it's fair for low use customers to subsidize "other" Duke customers? Please explain that one to me!

Well done and I hope you enjoy your "kick back" for voting for this while the rest of us continue to work and earn our living and pay for services with no return just because lobbyists have more money than the average person. You are an absolute disgrace and that is being kind.

I look forward to your response.

On Fri, May 20, 2022 at 12:56 PM Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us> wrote:

Dear Mr. Goodburlet,

Thank you for contacting me to express your concerns and frustrations about your recent Duke Energy Florida, LLC (Duke) bills. I know how challenging increased energy costs can be for families.

As you may know, the Florida Public Service Commission is the agency that regulates the electric companies in the state of Florida, and are required by law to set rates based on the cost of service. In March of 2021 we approved a settlement agreement setting new rates, effective January 2022. The settlement was negotiated and filed with the PSC by several parties, including Duke, the Office of Public Counsel—the attorney representing ratepayers before the PSC—and other consumer groups.

A part of that settlement agreement was the provision you reference in your email, a thirty dollar minimum monthly bill, I wanted to explain my reasons for supporting it. I mentioned above that we set rates based on the cost of service. That means we set rates for each rate class that reflect what it actually costs for the company to provide electricity to them. The only accounts that the minimum bill provision affects are those with very low or zero usage. Duke must build a system that is ready and able to serve those accounts even in months when they are not in use. The wires have to be available, the power plants have to be ready to provide that electricity to those accounts even if they are not used in a particular month. The minimum bill causes low use customer accounts to pay what it costs for the company to serve them at any time the customer chooses to use energy. This ensures that other Duke costumers are not subsidizing low use customer accounts.

I supported the minimum bill provision for the above reasons, and I voted for the Duke Settlement Agreement, because taken as a whole I found it in the public interest. I understand that you may disagree. My role is to ensure safe, reliable utility services at fair prices, and I continue to work for rates that are fair to each customer. Thank you, again, for contacting me, I appreciate the opportunity to hear your perspective.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark

Commissioner

Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 413-6038

From: richard goodburlet <goodburlet@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 12:37 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject:

Gary:

I am flabbergasted that a utility company in my beloved country of the United States of America, (for which I served in the capacity as an Army officer and incurred a disability), has been allowed by your commission to impose a minimum fee on my electric bill. What do I receive for this fee? I'm not getting any additional kWh or better customer service, and you and I both know this fee is not for grid maintenance. I'm sure you wouldn't be happy if each time you filled your car with fuel, you were charged a minimum fee of \$105, even though the physical limitation of your tank only allows you to put a maximum of \$50 in it.

I cannot comprehend how it is viewed as acceptable to impose a fee for which the entity whom the fee is charged to (me) gets neither a commodity nor a service for this fee. I have no problem paying a fee when in turn I am provided a service or a product. That is the way the monetary system is designed. Are we now modeling our system after the Russian way? What's next; the local grocery store charging a minimum fee of \$10 per visit to just walk through the door even if I only buy a \$1.25 candy bar?

I purchased solar as I felt it was good for the environment and even the Federal government gave me a 30% tax credit showing their support. The current president has several "green" initiatives showing support. To make matters worse, I don't even have a choice to choose an alternate power company in Florida. Duke has a monopoly on the market in St. Pete Beach, FL (which is supposed to be illegal in America). Why stop at a \$30 minimum? Just think of all the additional money you could put in the lobbyists pockets if you raised this to \$100?

Is there any way this un-American, unfair fee can be revoked? I can be contacted at 239-699-7070 any time to discuss. I really hope this can be made right and my faith in the American way restored.