

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 11:08 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: No More Rate Hikes!

Good morning,

Please place the email below in CORRESPONDENCE – Consumers & Representatives in docket 20230001.

Thank you.

From: gary.holm=ge.com@mg.gospringboard.io <gary.holm=ge.com@mg.gospringboard.io> **On Behalf Of** Gary Holm
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: No More Rate Hikes!

Dear Mr. La Rosa,

Once again, Florida utilities are asking to raise their rates because of the cost of dirty fracked gas. Not only is the burning of fossil fuels hurting our public health and environment, the cost of these fuels is hurting Floridians. We are in a housing crisis and much of that is due to the exorbitant costs of energy bills.

Tampa Electric, Duke Energy Florida and Florida Power & Light continue to report record profits and astronomical executive compensation packages. These costs are not being absorbed by shareholders, as in the normal course of business, but are being passed on to Florida ratepayers.

The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC), appointed by Governor DeSantis, has become a rubber stamp for the continual requests by utilities to raise their rates. Last year alone, Tampa Electric received two rate hikes over 30% each for fuel costs, in addition to their annual fuel cost recovery hearing. The PSC granted Florida Power & Light the largest rate hike in history last year as well.

Floridians are struggling, with many needing to decide whether to keep the power on or pay for other necessities like food, medicine and rent. All of this is because Florida utilities continue to double down on expensive fossil fuels, rather than move to clean, renewable energy sources. Denying a hike will de-incentivize the continued use of these dirty fuels.

We're tired of the PSC constantly approving increases to our electric bills. It is outrageous that they are about to approve another round of increases to our bills (Docket No. 20220001-EI) without even holding public hearings with the opportunity for the public to offer in-person testimony.

Please stop the utility rate hikes! We are already struggling from record rate hikes this year. Please don't approve any more.

Sincerely,

Gary Holm
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