

Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 8:21 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence; Diane Hood
Subject: FW: To CLK Docket 20230017

Please, add to docket 20230001.

From: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 8:17 AM
To: John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: To CLK Docket 20230017

From: Jenny Cassidy <jenny_14_02@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 11:07 AM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Concerned Citizen, FPL Continuous Rate Hikes

Good morning,

I am reaching out today as one of hundreds of thousands of concerned citizens who live in northwest Florida. Citizens in my area are still reeling from the initial rate hike imposed by FPL upon their merger with Gulf Power back in 2021. As the president of a homeowners association in Escambia County, I have close contact with residents of 152 homes within our neighborhood and read the complaints and concerns of thousands of others who share those concerns in open forums through multiple social media outlets.

People in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties are struggling to pay their power bills since FPL's takeover. Then, with the newest rate hike for January of 2023, those that are already struggling, many having to choose between basic necessities and staying warm or staying cool will further suffer from another approved hike in rates. There are families who live in basic single family homes paying \$400-\$600 a month for electricity. There are retirees on fixed incomes who claim their bills have DOUBLED since FPL's takeover. The major concern now lies in the fact that FPL is proposing YET ANOTHER rate hike for April of 2023 which will be reportedly the steepest increase imposed on Floridians thus far. FPL uses the guise that the increases in costs from the rising cost of propane combined with the costs imposed from hurricanes the past couple years make it necessary to increase costs and pass those costs of doing business along to the customer. Citizens of NW Florida cannot afford another rate hike!

The Pensacola News Journal published the following article informing residents in the area of the proposed 3rd rate hike from FPL: <https://www.pnj.com/story/news/2023/01/23/fpl-seeks-increased-electric-bills-due-to-hurricanes-gas-costs-former-gulf-power-to-see-hike/69832492007/>. The article contains the following excerpt, "FPL has a proven track record of keeping bills below the national average. When events beyond our control — like hurricanes and significant changes in fuel prices — force a change to customer bills, we try to do so in a thoughtful way that minimizes the impact on our customers while balancing the risk of invoices piling up," FPL Chairman and CEO Eric Silagy said in a prepared statement. Yet if you ask residents of NW FL, we can tell you that the impacts FPL are making on residents' ability to afford the basic costs of living after electricity hikes in our area, nothing about it is thoughtful or displays any concern for the majority who are already struggling.

In 2021, CEO Eric Silagy of FPL's annual earnings were reportedly \$15.5M according to the Economic Research Institute. In addition, the estimated net worth of Eric Silagy is at least \$42.2 million dollars as of 2 June 2022. Mr. Silagy owns over 13,128 units of NextEra Inc. stock worth over \$19,174,941 and over the last 10 years he sold NEE stock worth over \$15,420,727. For a company that is struggling and introducing

constant rate hikes to pass the business's cost of doing business 100% on to its consumers, their CEO and multiple other top executives are raking in the profits from these rate hikes. WE THE CITIZENS OF NW FLORIDA PLEAD WITH THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO DENY FPL'S PROPOSED APRIL 2023 RATE HIKE!

Thank you,

Jennifer Cassidy