

Charlie Smith

From: Office of Chairman Fay
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 3:42 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20210015
Attachments: Request for Public Hearings on Florida Power and Light's Rate Hikes .pdf

Please place the attached to Docket No. 20210015

From: Maria Claudia Schubert-Fontes <marias@catalystmiami.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 09, 2023 3:08 PM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Chairman Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>
Cc: Camilo Mejia <camilom@catalystmiami.org>; Rachel Prestipino <rachelp@catalystmiami.org>; David Sinclair <dsinclair47@gmail.com>; MacKenzie Marcelin <mackenzie@floridarising.org>; Brooke Ward <bward@fwwatch.org>; Miami Climate Alliance MCA <miamiclimatalliance@gmail.com>; Chelsea Rivera <chelsea@cfjwj.org>; Susan Glickman <susan@floridaclinicians.org>; earthethicsaction <earthethicsaction@gmail.com>; Christian Wagley <christian@healthygulf.org>
Subject: Request for Public Hearings on Florida Power and Light's Rate Hikes

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November 9, 2023

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dear Members of the Florida Public Service Commission,

We are writing on behalf of Clean Energy For All, a roundtable of organizations and individuals advancing a just transition to clean renewable energy that centers equity and increases resilience across Florida. Our table, composed of organizations including Florida Rising, Catalyst Miami, Miami Climate Alliance, Healthy Gulf, Florida Clinicians for Climate Action, Central Florida Jobs with Justice, Earth Ethics, Food & Water Watch and the League of United Latin American Citizens urges the Public Service Commission (PSC) to facilitate direct communication between Florida Power and Light (FPL) consumers and Commissioners by hosting public hearings in the counties served by FPL before resubmitting its decision to the Supreme Court.

The previous justification submitted by the PSC in the 2021 settlement did not include the testimony offered by community members. We request that the Public Service Commission ensure that their resubmission considers the hundreds of comments provided by community members in the 2021 rate case. The concerns of community members should be acknowledged within the PSC's justification to the Supreme Court. Additionally, as the Commission considers the appropriate response to the Supreme Court's direction, we believe that the voices of those currently affected should be at the forefront of this process. This will ensure that the experiences and concerns of present-day consumers are accurately represented in the decision-making process.

Floridians experienced unprecedented extreme heat waves this summer, resulting in soaring energy bills. Many households throughout Florida are experiencing energy burdens due to the 2021 settlement. In Miami, one in four low-income households has an energy burden above 11%, more than 3.5 times higher than the national average (1). This increased energy burden among Floridians necessitates a thorough assessment of the impacts of the rate hikes.

Moreover, we are concerned that by only holding this meeting in Tallahassee, the Commission is excluding the voices of customers who do not have the financial resources or disposable income to travel to Tallahassee. By hosting hearings outside of Tallahassee, the PSC can ensure broader participation and allow individuals from across Florida to express their experiences with the new rates. In addition to allowing consumers the space to express their concerns, we also demand that you listen to our comments and respond to them in your explanation for rate hikes. The commenting process from the most recent rate case was unwieldy, inaccessible, and ignored by your commission. We ask that you hold hearings in local counties, incorporate our feedback into your rulings, and respond to our concerns within your justifications.

We urge the Public Service Commission to ensure a fair and transparent process that considers the experiences of Floridians most affected by these rate increases.

We kindly request your attention to this matter. We hope the PSC will use the recent Supreme Court decision as an opportunity to conduct a comprehensive and consumer-centric evaluation of Florida Power and Light's rate hikes.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Miami Climate Alliance

Florida Rising

Central Florida Jobs with Justice

Healthy Gulf

Florida Clinicians for Climate Action

Earth Ethics

League of United Latin American Citizens

Catalyst Miami

Food & Water Watch

Maria Claudia Schubert-Fontes (she/her) - [what's this?](#)

Climate Justice Program Manager

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