

Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 1:59 PM
To: Consumer Correspondence; Consina Griffin-Greaux
Subject: FW: TECO Rate request comment

Please, add to docket20240026.

From: Consina Griffin-Greaux <CGriffin@psc.state.fl.us> **On Behalf Of** Consumer Contact
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2024 9:41 AM
To: John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: RE: TECO Rate request comment

John,

Please forward to clerk's office. CGriffin

CGriffin

From: Todd Brown <tbrowncpa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:56 AM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: TECO Rate request comment

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Dear commissioners,

TECO is asking for yet another rate increase to its already high rates. These rate increases over the past few years have been egregiously high, resulting in increased profits for the parent company, Emera, and its CEO raking in more than \$8 MILLION and the remaining executive team bringing in more than \$1 MILLION each. By its nature, utility companies are monopolies and public commissions have been in place to monitor the reasonableness of rates and such. TECO has been given far too much leeway in its management practices and fuel delivery practices and zero accountability. While Floridians have been struggling to pay for their basic electrical needs, TECO has become a fat cow and the fat needs to be trimmed before more profits go to the elite execs bank accounts. We are tired of the rich robbing from the poor to feed the rich.

TECO has asked for multiple increases over the years. The basic daily rate would now increase by over 100% from just a few years ago. This is egregious. The base energy demand charge will go from \$5.562 and 6.662 in 2021 to 7.491 and 8.491, an increase of over 24%! Although inflation has gone up over the years, a 24% increase cannot be justified within a reasonable world. Greed by these corporate executives, the unwillingness to manage to budget and corporate bloat is not something that should be funded by the FL consumer.

Our US Representative just sent out an update from her Energy Subcommittee. Florida's energy bills were the fourth-highest in the **nation** ... up from 13th a decade before. "Florida utilities like Tampa Electric and Duke Energy ... even rolled back energy efficiency goals, and ... are slow-walking consumer cost savings and rebates from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)." The residents on TECO power deserve better.

It is time for TECO to be held accountable, make the necessary efficiency standards that so many other utility companies have made across the country, reduce the corporate bloat and hold rates steady. With these changes, TECO can easily maintain the grid, it's commitment to FL residents, harden the grid from hurricanes and storms (which they should have been doing with their profits all along), while still providing a significant return to investors and management.

Please, for protection for Florida residents, do not approve this rate increase structure.

Regards,

Todd Brown
Tampa, FL