

**Brian Schultz**

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**From:** Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 9:10 AM  
**To:** 'Kathi Ward'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Docket number 20240025: I urge to stop Duke Energy's rate increases and to retire harmful coal plants

Good Morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240025-EI and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz  
Commission Deputy Clerk II  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850.413.6770

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathi Ward (kathi.ward@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message <kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
Sent: Saturday, June 8, 2024 7:34 PM  
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Subject: Docket number 20240025: I urge to stop Duke Energy's rate increases and to retire harmful coal plants

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

To the Florida Public Service Commission,

- 1) Duke must prioritize the retirement of outdated and environmentally harmful coal plants, particularly Crystal River Units 4 and 5, to mitigate air and environmental pollution.
- 2) The continued operation of these coal plants poses significant health risks to residents, including respiratory diseases, heart issues, and premature death, highlighting the urgent need for retirement.
- 3) Coal burning contributes to greenhouse gas emissions and exacerbates climate change, threatening Florida's coast and increasing the severity of hurricanes, necessitating a transition to cleaner energy sources.

4) Low-income communities, such as those near Crystal River, bear disproportionate health burdens from coal pollution, underscoring the need for equity in environmental decision-making.

5) Transitioning from coal to renewable energy sources not only reduces pollution but also lowers costs for consumers, aligning with both economic and environmental sustainability goals.

The retirement of coal units by 2030 is imperative for the health, environment, and economic well-being of Florida residents, requiring decisive action from Duke Energy.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,

Kathi Ward  
727 27th Ave N  
St Petersburg, FL 33704  
kathi.ward@gmail.com  
(727) 249-7136

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