

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 7:59 AM
To: 'Cynthia Belfatto'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Keep Tampa Electric (TECO) Rates Down Docket# 20240026

Good Morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240026-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

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From: cynthiabelfatto=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <cynthiabelfatto=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io> **On Behalf Of** Cynthia Belfatto
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:14 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Keep Tampa Electric (TECO) Rates Down Docket# 20240026

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Dear PSC Member,

I am writing to express my opposition to TECO's proposed rate increase as a concerned TECO customer [and AARP member in Florida] residing in Apollo Beach, Florida.

I urge you to carefully consider the impact of a rate increase on Florida residents, particularly the most vulnerable among us. With the rising costs of living, including healthcare and housing, a hike in utility rates would decrease our quality of life.

Please stop with the solar panel fields. Not only is it wasting valuable land, but it's also not efficient. The technology, lithium and panels come from China. And now it's being reported that solar fields are negatively impacting climate change. Not that I believe in the climate change crisis religion b.s.

I ask that you prioritize the interests of consumers over corporate greed and reject TECO's proposed increase to the return on equity and fixed customer charge. This is pure profit that customers should not have to pay for. Now more than ever, it is crucial to ensure that essential services remain affordable and accessible to all Floridians.

In addition, as a resident of Apollo Beach who resides near the Big Bend power plant, I've seen the sprawling solar farms take over valuable land, lived the conversion from coal to natural gas & suffered with all of the traffic from the visitors at the Manatee Viewing Exhibit.

Meanwhile, we get no benefits. For years, we've heard that the powerlines on Apollo Beach Blvd were going to go underground. This would decrease power outages, especially during storms, be an aesthetic improvement and could even save lives (as there have been several accidents where vehicles have struck the poles). Putting the powerlines underground on the boulevard would go a long way with garnering support from the local community.

Thank you for your careful consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Belfatto
1435 Apollo Beach Blvd
Apollo Beach FL, 33572-3010