

**Brian Schultz**

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**From:** Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2024 7:39 AM  
**To:** 'Steven Estrada'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Keep Duke Rates Down Docket #20240025

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

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**From:** estrada=ix.netcom.com@mg.gospringboard.io <estrada=ix.netcom.com@mg.gospringboard.io> **On Behalf Of** Steven Estrada  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:19 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Keep Duke Rates Down Docket #20240025

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Dear PSC Member,

Did you know 20 or so years ago Warren Buffet said he pays less taxes than his secretary?  
No, he wasn't kidding.

Over at Duke Energy's Invesor website it says: "Duke Energy's consolidated reported effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2024 was 13.4% compared to 13.8% in the first quarter of 2023. The effective tax rate including noncontrolling interests and preferred dividends and excluding any special items was 13.7% for the first quarter of 2024 compared to 14.2% in the first quarter of 2023."

[https://s201.q4cdn.com/583395453/files/doc\\_financials/2024/q1/Q1-2024-Earnings-Release-Final.pdf](https://s201.q4cdn.com/583395453/files/doc_financials/2024/q1/Q1-2024-Earnings-Release-Final.pdf)

And yet they want another increase. Didn't they get a big one last year along with the other electric companies?

As a concerned Duke Energy customer [and AARP member in Florida], I am writing to express my opposition to Duke Energy's proposed rate increase.

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, and less taxes for a profitable company.

I ask that you prioritize the interests of consumers over corporate greed and reject Duke Energy'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.

Thank you for your careful consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Steven Estrada  
298 Drosdick DR  
Casselberry FL, 32707-5753