

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 3:50 PM
To: 'Heather Connor'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Duke Energy Rate

Good Afternoon, Heather Connor.

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

Thank you!

Toni Hover
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6467

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From: Heather Connor <heatherjconnor@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 3:38 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Duke Energy Rate

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed rate hikes by Duke Energy. As a dedicated teacher in our community, I am already struggling to make ends meet with my current salary, and any additional increases in my electricity bill would exacerbate my financial difficulties. The cost of living continues to rise, and the salaries of educators like myself are not keeping pace. Each month, I carefully budget my limited income to cover essential expenses, including rent, groceries, and utilities. The current rates are already challenging to manage, and any further increases could make it nearly impossible for me to afford basic necessities. The impact of these rate hikes extends beyond individual households. Many of my students come from families facing similar financial hardships. When utility costs rise, it places additional strain on parents and guardians, potentially affecting their ability to provide a stable and supportive environment for their children's education. I understand that utility companies face operational costs and the need for infrastructure improvements. However, I urge Duke Energy to consider the financial burden these rate hikes impose on

residents, particularly those of us who are already living paycheck to paycheck. It is imperative that Duke Energy explores alternative solutions that do not disproportionately impact low- and middle-income families.

I respectfully request that you reconsider these rate hikes and work towards a more equitable approach to addressing the company's financial needs. Our community relies on affordable and reliable electricity, and it is crucial that Duke Energy supports us by maintaining reasonable rates. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope that you will take my concerns, and those of many others in our community, into serious consideration.

Warm Regards
Heather J. Connor