

Charlie Smith

From: Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 8:17 AM
To: 'Kathryn Elalouf'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: TECO RATE HIKE REQUEST

Good morning Kathryn Elalouf,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240026, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Best regards,

Charlie Smith II

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
850-413-6770

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From: Kathryn Elalouf <katelalouf@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 5:59 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: TECO RATE HIKE REQUEST

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Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

I beg you NOT to approve TECO's request for a rate hike.

I was raised in Tampa, valedictorian of my high school, graduated from USF with honors, and am trilingual. In my professional career, I was a legal administrator and then, after raising my children, became a certified English and Special Education teacher. In short, I'm well educated.

On the news they're always talking about how strong our economy is right now based on the usual measurements--the ones that measure businesses and the wealthy. However, the measurements clearly do not take into account how "normal" folks are doing. Journalists interview people and economists puzzle over why those people don't feel great about the economy. Really?

All they have to do is talk to poor, working class, or retired people to know how difficult it is simply to exist. Yes, inflation has come down but prices have not and inflation, boosted by greedflation, is still raising prices! Absolutely nothing has become more affordable for the average American so why on Earth should we feel better about the economy? It's the basics that are killing our budgets: food, rent, water, transportation and electricity. And yet, TECO wants to burden us and NOT the businesses that are doing so well in our current political climate.

I have researched TECO's profits and I can report that they are doing just fine. If they want more money for expected future costs, get it from the deep pockets: businesses, venture capitalists, and Republican supreme court justices!

Sincerely,
Kathryn Elalouf
Volunteer Community Advocate
Tampa, Florida