

Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 11:17 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Cc: Lillian Barrios
Subject: FW: Need to go to Clerks office
Attachments: Oppose Docket : 20240026; TECO Rate Increase; Docket : 20240026 ; Docket No. 20240026-EI; Objection to TECO- Docket No. 20240026-EI

Please, add to docket 20240026.

From: Lillian Barrios <LBarrios@psc.state.fl.us>
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 11:05 AM
To: John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: FW: Need to go to Clerks office

Hello again,

Please forward the attached emails to the clerk's office.

Thank you!

Antonia Hover

From: Jessica <jesspadilla5@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:31 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Oppose Docket : 20240026

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

Dear Florida PSC members,

I am writing to express my opposition to Tampa Electric Company's (TECO) proposed electricity rate hikes. As a concerned customer, I find this increase to be both unreasonable and detrimental to the community.

The proposed hike would raise the average bill to \$160.93 per month in January 2025. This represents an astounding 62% increase since 2019, far outpacing the rate of inflation over the same period. Such a substantial rise in costs is unsustainable for many households, particularly those already struggling with the rising costs of living.

Moreover, these rate hikes come at a time when there are viable, more cost-effective alternatives available. Clean energy advocates rightly point out that transitioning to renewable energy sources, such as solar power, would not only stabilize prices but also significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The current reliance on fossil fuels is not only environmentally harmful but also subjects customers to the volatility of fossil fuel markets.

It is clear that the energy sector is a major contributor to climate change in the greater Tampa Bay region. By continuing to depend on fossil fuels, TECO is exacerbating environmental degradation and missing an opportunity to invest in a cleaner, more sustainable future. The proposed rate hikes would essentially force customers to fund outdated and damaging energy practices.

The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) has a duty to ensure that rate increases are fair, just, and reasonable, and to prioritize the public interest. The recent Florida Supreme Court case highlighted the need for the PSC to give greater consideration to customer testimony and the real-life impact of these rate hikes. I urge the PSC to heed this directive and to reject TECO's proposed increases.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,

Jessica Sirois

Antonia Hover

From: Steve Kenyon <skenyon2@tampabay.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 6:38 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: TECO Rate Increase

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I have two issues with TECO. First is the constant increase in the cost and second is the level of service they are providing my area in San Antonio.

1). I am a consumer that uses TECO for my electric power. Over the last few years while my usage has stayed the same my monthly bill has increased by 40% +. I see now that they want to increase my base rate while at the same time keeping the rate for commercial users the same. How can one utility have a "secret arrangement" made with the state that only impacts TECO customers and lets the other utilities treat their customers differently? Is this fair? Should this be legal? I also read that TECO is requesting that it be allowed to increase the dividend for their shareholders from 10% to 12%. Since my bill has increased by 40%+ I would think that a return of 10% is good enough for any investor of any company and I should not have to see my bill increased to appease the shareholders.

2). We do not go for a month without losing power or having a brown out occur in my area. We do not even need a storm to lose power. We can have either condition affect us on a clear, calm day. I am lucky enough to have a device called TING that is provided by my insurer that monitors my electric power and reports/tracks both brown outs and outages. We do not go for a whole month without either or both conditions taking place. I do not believe that TECO is providing an acceptable level of service and needs to work on providing a reliable service. Please deny or pair back any request for an increase. We are already suffering higher bills and a service level that is lacking. Thank you.

Antonia Hover

From: hopesayre@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 5:25 PM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Docket : 20240026

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Hello,

Please stop rubberstamping TECO's rate increase - 11.5% return???

I understand TECO is a for-profit organization – but enough. Too high of increase.

This tax payer opposes and asks you to decline.

Thank you.

Hope Sayre
2812 W. Thornton Ave
Tampa 33611

Antonia Hover

From: pro4people <pro4people@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 11:18 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Docket No. 20240026-EI

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Hi,

Since TECO has been owned by Emera, they have been constantly trying to increase their revenue way faster than before and at any cost; and not by being more efficient like any ethical company would do, but by simply charging more to their consumers for the same service. This is only possible when a company is a monopoly where consumers do not have any other options to choose from (or when there is collusion amongst service companies). This is why, this company must be closely scrutinized, or even better: replaced by a non-profit company who tries to really service their customers, rather than meeting the goals of its senior executives so they can get their bonuses, or using it for political campaigns.

And all for what? TECO is already breaking records in residential operating revenue as shown on their Annual Reports (\$76MM increase from 2022 to 2023), which demonstrates that TECO is already taking more than enough money from residential customers, probably to compensate the revenue they are losing from Industrial customers, which is totally unfair.

Just in the last 18 months, TECO already increased their energy charges twice (Jan 2023 and Jan 2024) by 12.4%, on top of the extra fees like: storm charge, storm surcharge, and clean energy transition charge which already add 18% to the energy charges. And now, they are trying to do it again just 6 months after the last increase but now at much higher prices, including a 50% increase to the basic charge, which they just get even if no power is consumed.

TECO even tried to make non cost-effective to get solar energy for the roughly 1% of customers who are investing in solar energy (so everyone's heir can inherit a better planet); just to compensate for the small revenue that TECO might lose by customers moving from dirty TECO energy to clean solar energy. Fortunately Florida Governor vetoed this House bill 741 in 2022. But even now, TECO pays roughly 1/10th of the end-of-the-year excess clean energy they receive from consumers, compared to the dirty energy price they charge to the same consumers.

Somebody needs to put a stop to these bill increases and demand instead more efficiencies from TECO, especially now that overall utility prices have already increased almost 30%, and additional increases will hurt even more the Florida people.

Thank you for considering these comments

Antonia Hover

From: Barry McKinley <barrydmckinley@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 8, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Cc: Barry McKinley
Subject: Objection to TECO- Docket No. 20240026-EI
Attachments: FI PSC objection to TECO.pdf

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

Attached to this email is a pdf file that is a letter objecting to TECO's request for increased rates. Before being totally dismissed, my primary objection is based on TECO providing false information and calculations to the commission in an attempt to obtain approval. The actual percentage of impact for the calendar year 2026 is over 9% where TECO shows less than 5%. Please consider this before approval.

Sincerely,

Barry D. McKinley 229-886-7090



To: Florida Public Service Commission
From: Barry D. McKinley
Date: June 8, 2024
Re: Objection to TECO 2025 filing for increase

While I am not surprised that TECO desires a rate increase, and may actually need to increase rates; however, the filing submitted to this commission has used incorrect information in hopes of seeking approval for the 3-year increase.

TECO has made a false claim regarding customer impact in the year 2026 of the 3-year planned increase by a rather significant amount (over 5% error) as is observed in the below tables. In each of the examples provided, and using information provided by TECO for this commission's consideration, Residential Customers, Small Commercial Customers, and Commercial General Service Demand Customers, will each be impacted by an increase in electricity by not less than 9% in the calendar year 2026. However, TECO claimed that each of these customers will be impacted by an increase averaging less than 5%. The claim of percentage of impact to customers by TECO is incorrect on its face as submitted to this commission and should therefore be dismissed until TECO can correct their filing to observe the true impact to the TECO customer base and this commission. Under no circumstances should TECO be allowed to increase the electricity bill in the amounts that they are proposing, especially when they are intentionally obfuscating the real impact to its customer base.

These are the exact types of activities that cause citizens to lose trust in companies and government. In the day of "transparency" of governmental agencies and those regulated by the government, to blatantly attempt to pass this type of detrimental increase through, as if this honorable commission will merely rubber stamp this increase, is unnerving to the citizens that trust in this commission. The absurdity of TECO's filing on page 2 wherein the increases are bullet-pointed with incorrect percentages in a manner that is so nonchalant, almost reads as if no one is thinking when they read them, is very concerning. To quote the first bullet point:

"The current Residential Service monthly bill for 1,000 kWh of \$143.48 would increase to \$148.15 for a 3.25 percent increase for 2025, \$161.96 of a 4.4 percent increase for 2026 and \$166.55 or 2.8 percent increase for 2027".

The attempt to make the reader believe that \$161.96 minus \$148.15 is only 4.4%, is unbelievable absurd because \$13 of \$148 is not 4.4%. These false statements are the same for all customer categories for 2026. For TECO to submit such a blatant lie is an affront to not only the customers, who obviously are thought very little of by TECO, but also to this commission that is charged with the review of such requests.

Regardless of the remainder of the TECO filing, none of it can be trusted at this point.

Across the entirety of 2026, TECO has understated the actual percentage of their desired increase and I cannot believe that it's merely a typo or an error in calculation. I for one, also cannot believe in the coincidence that 2026 happens to be an election year.

Inflation affects everyone and citizens do not have the luxury of getting pay increases, especially at a rate of over 5% in an economy where every business everywhere is cutting personnel to advance the AI culture and reduce their own costs.

This is also the type of activity that provides incorrect inflation data. Because the 2026 data is incorrect, the true impact is not stated for the 2027 year. It conceals true inflation because it only measures the 2026 to 2027 impact, which is much less than the 9% increase in reality created in 2025 to 2026, all because of falsely submitted numbers in the preceding years. This skews inflation making it falsely appear as though there is small increase in 2026 to 2027 when the consumer was totally soaked with inflation in 2025 to 2026. This is unacceptable at any level.

Table 1 uses the numbers provided by TECO to show the dollar amount of impact to the customer and the actual percentage increase. It is plain to see that 2025 and 2027 are correct percentages; however, 2026 is incorrect across all categories used as examples. How is it possible that TECO is incapable of performing simple calculations to determine the correct percentage? And what else is being hidden?

Table 2 also uses the numbers provided by TECO and expands the percentages to what was submitted and then compares them to the actual calculated percentage change.

I respectfully submit this for your consideration and request that this commission reject this action by TECO.

Barry D. McKinley

(See Tables 1 & 2 below)

Table 1 Using TECO numbers to show actual percentage increase.

	Residential Customer	Small Commercial	Commercial GS
Comparison Base	\$ 143.48	\$ 230.21	\$ 37,895.18
2025 New Bill	\$ 148.15	\$ 207.55	\$ 37,948.92
2025 Dollar increase	\$ 4.67	\$ (22.66)	\$ 53.74
2025 % increase	3.25%	-9.84%	0.14%
2026 New Bill	\$ 161.96	\$ 226.69	\$ 42,351.60
2026 Dollar increase	\$ 13.81	\$ 19.14	\$ 4,402.68
2026 % increase	9.63%	9.22%	11.60%
2027 New Bill	\$ 166.55	\$ 232.69	\$ 43,322.97
2027 Dollar increase	\$ 4.59	\$ 6.00	\$ 971.37
2027 % increase	2.83%	2.65%	2.29%

Table 2 Comparing TECO percentages to actual percentages to show actual increase over time.

	Residential Customer	Small Commercial	Commercial GS
Comparison Base	\$ 143.48	\$ 230.21	\$ 37,895.18
2025 Listed change	3.25%	-9.80%	0.14%
2025 Observed changed	3.25%	-9.80%	0.14%
2025 Discrepancy	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
2026 Listed change	4.40%	3.98%	3.37%
2026 Observed changed	9.63%	9.22%	11.60%
2026 Discrepancy	5.23%	5.24%	8.23%
2027 Listed change	2.80%	2.65%	2.29%
2027 Observed changed	2.83%	2.65%	2.29%
2027 Discrepancy	0.03%	0.00%	0.00%
Submitted %	10.45%	-3.17%	5.80%
Actual %	15.71%	2.07%	14.03%
Hidden % Increase	5.26%	5.24%	8.23%