

**Charlie Smith**

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**From:** John Plescow  
**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2024 9:09 AM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence; Lillian Barrios  
**Subject:** FW: Please Forward to Clerk's Office  
**Attachments:** Oppose Docket: 20240026

Please, add to docket 20240026.

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**From:** Lillian Barrios <LBarrios@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2024 9:07 AM  
**To:** John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Please Forward to Clerk's Office

Good morning,

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

Thank you,  
Lillian

## Charlie Smith

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**From:** Cynthia Peters <cynthiapeters813@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 10:07 PM  
**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.

I am writing to express my vehement 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 The proposed rate hikes would essentially force customers to fund outdated and damaging energy practices.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.

The upcoming rate case hearings are a critical opportunity for the PSC to hear directly from the community. I strongly encourage all customers to participate and voice their concerns. It is imperative that our collective opposition is heard and taken seriously.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,