

**Charlie Smith**

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 18, 2024 4:39 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20240025  
**Attachments:** Reject Duke Energy Florida's Rate Hike

Please place the attached in Docket No. 20240025.

Thank you!

## Charlie Smith

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**From:** katiefinnerty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathleen Finnerty  
<katiefinnerty@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 18, 2024 2:32 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Reject Duke Energy Florida's Rate Hike

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Dear Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Duke Energy Florida's proposed rate hike and to urge you to prioritize affordable, clean energy for all Floridians.

Duke's request to increase rates by \$16 per month for the average customer is unacceptable. Floridians already pay some of the highest electricity rates in the nation, with annual bills nearly \$500 above the national average. We simply cannot afford another increase.

I urge you to:

- \* Reject Duke's proposed rate hike
- \* Lower Duke's requested 11.15% Return on Equity to match the national average of 9.60%
- \* Eliminate the unfair \$30 minimum bill that penalizes solar customers
- \* Require Duke to accelerate its transition to affordable solar and other renewable energy sources

Duke's continued reliance on fossil fuels exposes Floridians to price volatility and higher long-term costs. Meanwhile, solar investments have already saved other Florida utility customers over \$200 million since 2017.

As our state's utility regulators, you have the power to protect consumers and guide Florida towards a cleaner, more affordable energy future. Please prioritize the interests of Floridians over Duke's profits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kathleen Finnerty

4321 NW 67th Ter Gainesville, FL 32606-4220 katiefinnerty@msn.com