

Charlie Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 8:39 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20250011
Attachments: Reject FPL's Unprecedented \$10 Billion Rate Hike – Protect Florida Families

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Please place the attached in Docket No. 20250011.

Thank you!

Charlie Smith

From: koustephanie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Arroyo-Kou
<koustephanie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 7:13 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith
Subject: Reject FPL's Unprecedented \$10 Billion Rate Hike – Protect Florida Families

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Dear Florida Public Service Commission Gabriella Smith,

I am writing to strongly urge you to reject Florida Power and Light's (FPL) proposed \$10 billion rate hike—the largest in U.S. history. Approving this increase would be a devastating blow to Florida families, many of whom are already struggling with rising living costs. This past year, this Commission has already failed residents by allowing TECO's rate hikes, and we cannot afford another reckless decision that prioritizes corporate profits over public well-being.

Electricity is not a luxury—it is a life-saving necessity in Florida. With extreme heat, hurricanes, and severe weather events, access to affordable power is essential for survival. A rate increase of this magnitude would force seniors, low-income families, and working-class residents to choose between paying their electric bills and affording food, rent, or medical care. No one should have to make such impossible choices just to keep the lights on.

Beyond the financial hardship, this increase also carries serious environmental consequences. Instead of investing in clean, affordable renewable energy, FPL continues to expand its reliance on fossil fuels, worsening extreme weather patterns and increasing pollution. These impacts disproportionately harm low-income communities and communities of color, who already experience higher energy burdens and environmental health risks. If FPL truly needed more funding, it should focus on sustainable energy solutions, not passing costs onto struggling residents.

The Florida Public Service Commission has a responsibility to serve the public, not corporate monopolies. FPL is a monopoly, meaning Floridians have no choice but to pay whatever rates are approved. If this rate hike is allowed, it will set a dangerous precedent, opening the door for further unchecked increases that will push even more families into a financial crisis.

I urge you to reject this historic \$10 billion rate hike and stand with the people of Florida. The residents of this state deserve fair and affordable electricity—not price gouging from utility giants.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stephanie Arroyo-Kou

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