Please add Bev’s response to the consumer side of the docket.

Ms. Thiel:

Thank you for contacting the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) about Florida Power & Light Company’s (FPL) rate petition. To give Commissioners and staff an opportunity to review your concerns, your correspondence is included in the file for Docket No.160021-EI.

PSC customer service hearings in June are scheduled in FPL's service territory for Commissioners to hear directly from customers about the utility’s rate request and service. All customer comments during the hearings and all correspondence will be reviewed and considered when PSC staff prepares its recommendation to the Commissioners on FPL's proposed rates.

The PSC’s evidentiary hearing on FPL's rate case will be in Tallahassee. Witnesses from the utility, intervenors, Commission staff, and the Public Counsel, who represents customers, will present testimony and exhibits and be cross-examined by the Commissioners and other parties. Commissioners will examine FPL's need for a rate increase, its existing and proposed rate structure, and its ability to provide safe and reliable service.

Commissioners are charged with making sure that Florida's utility companies fulfill their service obligation. The PSC will ensure that final customer rates reflect only those costs that are prudent and necessary for FPL to deliver quality electric service to your home or business. Any proposed rate adjustment is requested to begin in January 2017.

If you have additional questions or need further assistance, please call 1-800-342-3552. Also, if you want updated case information, visit the PSC's website, www.floridapsc.com and click on the Clerk's Office tab, then hit Dockets and type in case number 160021.

Sincerely,

Bev DeMello
Assistant Director
850-413-6107
Good afternoon Ms. Thiel,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 160021-EI and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Charles
Commission Deputy Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee FL 32399-0850
850-413-6826

I urge you to oppose this rate hike as I do.

FPL is requesting to increase rates in 2017, 2018 and 2019. These increases will bring our monthly fixed charge from $7.87 to $10.30, a 31% increase. The non-fuel kilowatt charge is expected to increase 25% for the first 1000 KwH, and 19% for KwH over 1000. These increases do NOT include fuel charges. So if the globalist drive gas and oil prices back up again, which I believe they will, our fuel charges could double.

The return on equity should be reduced to a more appropriate level for a regulated monopoly utility and Smart Meter opt out fees should be rescinded and policies updated to reflect the NTP report findings. There never was any evidence that retaining an analog meter was more costly, as the reading could be reduced and absorbed by estimated billing in the interim or acquired through submission of photographic emailed readings by owners. They are instead a fine.

Without even considering the drawback of solar panels, which have not been successful elsewhere, while killing thousands of birds, some almost to extinction, if there is any valid consideration for this request it should be handled as a bond issue.

Disallowance of testimony during the 2012 Smart Meter service hearings was improper. In light of the NTP study just released, the Commission should re-evaluate its smart meter policies for all Florida utilities. Please consider the studies and listen to the people this time around.

I am a senior on a fixed income, already saddled with the $13.00 fine for the smart meter opt out fee and another $20.00 for various fees and taxes.

Please do not grant an increase which will certainly create hardships for the people of Florida.

Victoria Thiel