

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 11:10 AM
To: 'mike'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: RE: Gulf Power request for rate increase under Docket Number 160186-EI

Dear Mike:

Thank you for contacting the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) about Gulf Power Company's (Gulf) rate increase petition. Your correspondence is included in Gulf's rate case docket file (No. 160186-EI) to give Commissioners and staff an opportunity to review and understand your concerns.

Service hearings are scheduled in Pensacola on January 26 and in Panama City on January 27. I encourage you to attend one of the hearings, so that you can directly speak to the Commissioners. All customer comments—written and verbal—become a part of the record and will be reviewed and considered when PSC staff prepares its recommendation to the Commissioners on Gulf's petition.

Gulf's technical hearing before the PSC will be in March in Tallahassee. Witnesses from the utility, the Commission staff, the Office of Public Counsel (representing Gulf customers), and other intervenors in the case will present testimony, introduce exhibits, and be cross-examined before the Commissioners. Commissioners will review Gulf'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. In its petition, Gulf based its request on several factors, including transmission projects and replacing and repairing infrastructure. The PSC will ensure that final customer rates reflect only those costs that are prudent and necessary for Gulf to deliver quality electric service.

You can find Gulf rate case information on the PSC's website, www.FloridaPSC.com. Access the Clerk's Office tab, then hit Dockets and type in Docket No. 160186. All case submissions can be found in the Documents Filing Index. If you have additional questions or need further assistance, please call PSC Consumer Assistance at 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

Bev DeMello
Assistant Director

From: mike [<mailto:ram31956@bellsouth.net>]
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 3:58 PM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Gulf Power request for rate increase under Docket Number 160186-EI

Following reviewing Docket Number 160186-EI, my personal conclusion is that Gulf Power rate increase is not justified or necessary. They appear quite financially set with steady increase of customers and some cost reductions. Profit appears steady. Energy conservation among customers also shows in their numbers Until alternative energy startup costs for the consumer decrease more, they and the other Electrical Utility companies maintain their stronghold on

providing electrical power. My belief is they are interested in profit only and not the benefit of the consumers or the environment, unless they can profit from it.

In the letter provided by Gulf Power they had comparison of current and proposed rates and charges. Residential service increase was the highest at 6.9%. This staggering increase is out of line with the extremely slow yet steady economic growth of the last few years.

I was unable to see where they, along with other major electrical utility companies in Florida, provided financial support to the failed Solar amendment in this last election. Please review and advise where this cost is.

Following Hurricane IVAN, Gulf Power increased rates “temporarily” to offset the costs incurred to repair the damage from the storm. Please advise when they actually did return to pre-IVAN rates. I honestly do not remember then doing so and I have been paying the bills in Florida for over thirty years.

Mike