Collin Roehner

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Janet Brunson Wednesday, January 04, 2017 11:17 AM 'Tammy Thompson' Consumer Correspondence Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Thompson:

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, <u>www.FloridaPSC.com</u>. 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: Tammy Thompson [mailto:Tammya910@aol.com] Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 1:13 PM To: Consumer Contact Subject: Gulf Power Notice

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed Gulf Power rate increase of 6.9% as I believe that this is only for the purpose for Gulf Power to maintain its current profit level in the face of consumers moving to solar power. Gulf Power needs to instead explore ways to be part of this transition and growing in the solar panel installation and maintenance. Technology changes and improves, it is an organization's responsibility to stay current and competitive. Not raise rates to offset loss experienced by an organization 's failure to prepare for new technology integration. The current infrastructure needs to evolve in Florida and the other key point is that this rate increase will only result in those who can afford it switching to off grid solar power yet those who cannot afford solar being hit with higher rates and creating a burden on those families as well as all non-home owners. There is no logical reason for a 6.9 % increase for technology that not only needs to be phased out but ultimately will be phased out. The average employment raise is 2% a year for goodness sake.

Sincerely, Tammy Thompson A future purchaser of solar panels/home owner in Crestview Florida 360-975-2240