Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson

Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 11:09 AM

To: 'Buzz99'

Cc: Consumer Correspondence

Subject: Docket No. 160168-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Rotunda:

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

----Original Message-----

From: Buzz99 [mailto:buzz99@mchsi.com] Sent: Saturday, January 07, 2017 11:55 PM

To: Consumer Contact

Subject: Gulf Power proposed rate hike

I strenuously object to the nearly 7% rate hike requested by this power company. This is way too steep, and in fact if approved would mean continued emphasis on and use of fossil fuels in a state that should be LEADING the nation in solar power development. Gulf Power indicates on each statement where their energy comes from, and very very little

of it comes from sustainable sources. Therefore, please do not permit any increase in rates unless this company meaningfully invests in solar power infrastructure and development.

Rob Rotunda Gulf Breeze, FL