Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:41 AM

To: 'Stevo Harris (Dixon)'

Cc: Consumer Correspondence

Subject: Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Harris:

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: Stevo Harris (Dixon) [mailto:beaux@mail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2017 7:46 PM

To: Consumer Contact

Subject: Attn: Office of Commission Clerk

Gulf Power is attempting to raise its rates, and upon a bit of research, I discovered this was in part due to people using less electricity and attempting to save on their power bill.

That Gulf Power has not reached its exact projected level of financial growth is irrelevant to me; the projections may well be (and likely are) over-inflated, and my spouse and I as paying customers do not feel the need to adjust our finances to reflect the blunder in projected financial growth.

In summary: tell Gulf Power to adjust their projections, not our payments.

Steve Harris Callaway, FL 32404