Collin Roehner

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Janet Brunson Tuesday, January 10, 2017 10:49 AM 'jgyusis1@cox.net' Consumer Correspondence Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Yusis:

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: jgyusis1@cox.net [mailto:jgyusis1@cox.net] Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 2:16 PM To: Consumer Contact Subject: notice to customers on rate increase

Review of your notification of a propose rate increase raises the following questions/comments.

1. The letter references a decrease in bills in January 2017 due to decrease fuel prices. Not sure why this is mentioned. The Fuel Surcharge was to off set the cost of higher fuel prices, not to be confused with a rate hike. Based upon the reasoning in the letter, it would appear the Utility has used this for other operational expenses.

2. The residential rate is being increase almost double the commercial users.

3. Why isn't the rate hike tied to the inflation rate ??

4. If the rate is approved, at a increase cost of (average) \$120/year times the number of residential customers, what will be the final increase to the utility and what are the plans for the increase in revenue?

How do I get a copy of the submitted plan

Thank You for Your Time ED Yusis