

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 2:48 PM
To: 'larryjparker123@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate increase

Dear Mr. Parker:

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Parker [<mailto:larryjparker123@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 10:19 AM
To: Records Clerk
Subject: Rate increase

As a senior and soon to be a retired senior any increase in any monthly payment is difficult. My wife and I hope to retire one day (I am now 66 and plan to work until I am 70) and we are working to save as much as possible. What is viewed as a minor increase by Gulf Power translates into a major increase for fixed income seniors.

I would encourage Gulf Power or any other monopoly to truly examine the need for an increase and strive to look for cost savings in other areas of their company. I recognize that an increase is easy and cost savings require more work and may impact employees of their monopoly.

Governments as well as utility monopolies seldom look at cost savings as a solution and appear to have a yearly need for more and more income at the expense of all they serve. This is certainly more of a burden for seniors.

Sincerely

Larry Parker