Collin Roehner

From: Ruth McHargue

Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 4:43 PM

To: Consumer Correspondence
Cc: Janet Brunson; Diane Hood

Subject: FW: FPSC , 2 page(s)

Attachments: FAX-2017-01-18 15_59_32.tif

Customer correspondence

----Original Message-----

From: PSC Fax Server [mailto:Fax@psc.state.fl.us] Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 4:00 PM

To: Consumer Contact Subject: FPSC, 2 page(s)

You have received a 2 page fax from FPSC ().

It was sent to 8504136362. The fax is attached to this email, open the attachment to view your fax.

^{*}New Fax Received!*

January 11, 2017

Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Dkt. Number 160186-El Gulf Power Rate Increase Request

Dear Sir/Madame:

I write to voice my opposition to the proposed rate increase request by Gulf Power. I will be brief as I see on the internet other groups and individuals have opposed this request also and have undoubtedly given much clearer and well researched evidence and reasons for this opposition.

First, a 6.9 percent increase seems very high. I've been retired for 7 years. Each year brings greater cost for health care, insurance, taxes, surcharges, fuel charges, food, transportation, energy, etc. My fixed retirement annuity doesn't even cover inflation. There are thousands of us, the greatest majority of Gulf Power residential customers, not just retirees, but the working poor who live from paycheck paycheck. Is it not curious with the great influx of people – customers for Gulf Power – that GP needs a rate increase? Just take a drive in any direction in the county and you'll find traffic gridlocked, urban sprawl and development. Our county will soon resemble south Florida. We already do.

Secondly, the sprawl. I am a Pensacola native and can remember when there was no pollution haze on the horizon; when there were shrimp boats in the Bay and you could dive for scallops. There were open spaces where you could actually see the Gulf of Mexico when going to Pensacola Beach without all the hotels, condo's, restaurants and bars. Most people today wouldn't know their environment without noise and light pollution. Oh, Progress and of course, money – the ultimate motivator and arbiter.

I realize Gulf Power provides a vital service and also realize they employ some very well-heeled lobbyists, just as lobbyists ply their interests with our federal representatives and senators. Follow the money, follow the influence. Energy providers have to be called to task to stop fossil fuel usage and exploitation. Gulf Power's use of "low-cost coal that's cleaner than ever" is still dirty coal that is polluting our air and land. Climate change is already affecting the whole world and the state of Florida is in the cross-hairs. No 'normal, sane' person could dispute the undeniable facts and clear evidence of this gloomy outcome. Will we be vocal enough to save our environment? Can your governing body, Office of Public Counsel, and all the other unknown influencing interests be ethically and morally brave enough? What will we give our children and grandchildren?

Here's a thought for Gulf Power, you know, since we live in the SUNSHINE STATE: why not make it economically feasible for customers to <u>utilize solar power?</u> Other counties have done so. I would love, love, love to be able to do so but I can't afford it. Instead, I'm afraid of continually rising rates for this so-called low cost coal that's cleaner than ever.

Office of Commission Clerk Page 2

Office of Commission Clerk Page 2

Lastly, I can't not mention the timing of Gulf Power's Notice to Customers letter. Thank you for the relevant information, however, the next time, would you send a more timely Notice; one that doesn't coincidewith the busiest time of year, when we people out of town, busy with buying Christmas presents or attending Christmas festivities? That was pretty slick, Gulf Power, but did you really think people wouldn't notice?

Sad part is people didn't notice.

Thank you for your time in considering this letter. I hope the right decision can be made.

Sincerely

- Nancy Møore 10375 Cove Ave.

Pensacola, FL 32534

cc: Office of Public Counsel 111 W. Madison St., Rm. 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400