

Jan. 16, 2017  
512 Mooney rd. N.W.  
Fort Walton Beach, Fl.  
32547

Dear Commissioners,

I regret not being able to attend your hearing concerning a rate increase for Gulf Power under docket no. 160186-E1.

If it would be possible I would like to have this letter read to you in the meeting rather than just having it quietly entered into the report. If perhaps a lovely and very helpful Ms. Monica Woods is present I would ask her to read this letter as my proxy. I spoke with her on the phone and found her to be a very helpful and overall lovely person. If she is not present, then perhaps you have another kindly person to speak for me.

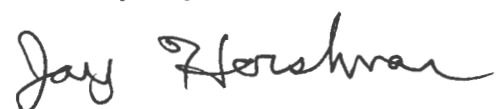
Old people don't always see well at night and travel isn't always an option. Therefore I will try to present my views as briefly as possible in this letter. I could easily produce something resembling a magazine with a lot of specifics from the annual reports of Southern Co, and Gulf Power. Or not. Having read the 2013 through 2015 annual reports of Southern and Gulf, it is evident they are both producing a healthy profit. When Southern has so much money they need to go to California and Texas to purchase wind and solar power facilities,,,well, thats a lot of money. Gulf is also spending a lot on solar here in Florida. Gee,, that looks nice in a T.V. commercial, but solar and wind are still some very expensive power sources. Compared to coal and gas generation the economics are just awful. And,, as the end consumer, I am the one who pays for this expensive power. Don't want it,, don't need it.

In May of this year I had to go to Colorado to assist my sister. As I traveled I70 I passed several wind farms. Big ones,,many miles of them, ones. Day time, good visability. Going out, most of the turbines were running. Oh my,, how nice. Coming home none of them were producing. Not one. About every 15 miles or so one of them would be turning ever so slowly, I expect to monitor the wind. Gee I said, I hope there are some fossil fuel boilers running somewhere. They don't quit at night or when the wind stops, and they are considerably cheaper. Also, anything is much better than nuclear. Too dangerous, stay away. I know you have some, but no more please. I am a retired process control technician and I know Browns Ferry came extremely close to a meltdown because of a fire in the controls. Scarry!

Rate increases. Gulf is asking for 6.9 percent for me. Thats about \$20 per month in my case. Old people, old house, old windows, old appliances. Hey, its the best we can do. The big users are looking at 2.5 to 3.5%. I cannot pass the increase on,, they can. Good for them,, bad for me. Please,, If Gulf simply must have an increase, could you spread it out to the big guys too and give the little people some relief? Don't get me wrong, I like Gulf Power, they serve me well, (243 volts, always) I just cannot support solar and other feel good social programs such as rate discounts for wealthy people's electric cars, etc.

Thank you for protecting the public!

Sincerely, Jay Harshman



COMMISSIONER  
CLERK

2017 JAN 23 AM 9:00

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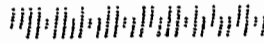


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DOCKET 160186-EL