## **Collin Roehner**

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Janet Brunson Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:24 AM 'madelynluedtke@icloud.com' Consumer Correspondence Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Luedtke:

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.

January service hearings were held in Pensacola and Panama City. 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: Madelyn Luedtke [mailto:madelynluedtke@icloud.com] Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 9:52 AM To: Records Clerk Subject: Proposed Gulf Power Rate Increase - Docket 160186

Madelyn Luedtke 6422 Ashborough Apt B Milton, FL 32570 The proposed rate increase requested by Gulf Power, not only is rate increase ridiculous, will have a definite negative impact on my monthly budget. I am a retired Senior Citizen on a fixed Social Security income which has not had a COLA increase in a number of years. If the increase is approved, then it takes away funds that I need to buy food and medication. Other Utilities have a reasonable fixed charges with the highest being \$8.76 by Duke Power. Gulf Power, on the other hand, want a rate increase to \$48.09. The numbers alone show how ridiculous their request is. I watch my electricity usage closely, and my current TOTAL monthly bill is not that much higher than what Gulf Power proposes for their fixed charges. The financial impact on my fixed income will be devastating. The choice will be do I run AC in the summer and heat in the winter, or do I buy food and medication. The rate increase of Gulf Power must be denied.

Sent from my iPad