## **Collin Roehner**

From: Janet Brunson

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:27 AM

To: 'dexzgirl@yahoo.com'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence

**Subject:** Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Udaeta:

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: Melani Udaeta [mailto:dexzgirl@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 9:32 PM

To: Records Clerk

Subject: Gulf Power Rate Increase Docket # 160186

Good evening,

My name is Melani Udaeta. I receive Gulf Power at 8990 North Davis Hwy Apt #93 Pensacola Fl 32514. I am writing you regarding Docket # 160186. I am very disturbed at the petition filed by Gulf Power calling for a \$106.8 million increase in

base rates. They want to increase the base rate of the bill from \$18 to \$48. They already have the highest fixed charge of any utility in the state. However, the income is not the highest in the state of Florida by any means. This will have a negative impact on budgets for the residents and create less spendable income. The local businesses will be impacted. There is absolutely no reason to increase the rates when we are already paying more than the rest of the state of Florida. Please do not grant this increase.

Thank you, Melani Udaeta