Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson

Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 9:39 AM

To: 'J. S. Myers'

Cc: Consumer Correspondence

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

Dear Mr. Myers:

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: J. S. Myers [mailto:chopper@joimail.com] Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 11:55 AM

To: Consumer Contact

Subject: Proposed Gulf Power rate increase

I recently received a letter from Gulf Power in regard to rate increases proposal presented to the Fl. PSC. Having read this very confusing letter several times I understand the contents to be as follows. Gulf Power has, over the past few years, benefited from a decrease in fuel cost, thereby reducing their cost in power production. Due to reduced costs in production Gulf Power finds it necessary to ask for a rate INCREASE from customers. How absolutely ABSURD! If

anything, the PSC should REDUCE the allowable rates charged by Gulf Power commensurate with the reduced cost of power production. As a Gulf Power customer and the PSC as my representative in this matter, I firmly OBJECT to any rate increase and conversely ask for a rate REDUCTION.

Thank you.