

March 16, 2017

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

COMMISSION
CLERK

2017 MAR 20 AM 8:23

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Re: Docket 160186-EI

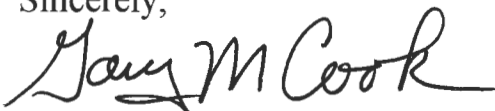
Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a retired engineer that worked for companies serving the utility industry and a Gulf Power rate payer as I own a condo in Destin. I oppose the Gulf Power proposed increase in base monthly charge for the reason it further discourages home owners to install solar photovoltaic panels. To me it seems, solar PV installations by home owners offers several benefits:

- Solar PV produces the most power during peak usage periods that flattens the load duration curve for the utility. Less of a need for the utility to supply additional capacity and reserve margin.
- Solar PV production offsets the need for the utility to supply energy with less efficient fossil fueled power plants- most likely with coal.
- Solar PV production is much less harmful to the environment than the additional use of fossil fuels.
- Solar PV installations serve loads on site, that in larger numbers will defer the need for more transmission and distribution lines.

While I understand the need for Gulf Power to earn a fair rate of return for their investment, I don't see why the increase in the base charge is necessary as it raises the bar for the homeowner in making their own investment for their power supply. If increased income for Gulf Power is justified, then raise the rates on consumption both in energy and capacity.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Cook
2328 Compton Dr.
Plano, TX 75025
972-838-0028



Mr. Gary M. Cook
2328 Compton Dr.
Plano, TX 75025-2467

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DALLAS TX 750

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