

**James D. Matison
4704 Genoa Drive
Fernandina Beach Florida 32034
December 18, 2019**

**Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850
RE: Docket No. 20190156-EI**

RECEIVED-FPSC
2019 DEC 23 AM 10:30
COMMISSION
CLERK

I feel this requested rate increase is NOT justified! FPU has not made any effort to move their power lines underground, but rather, as an example, has installed SOME cement poles along Fletcher Ave.—approximately 200 feet from the Atlantic Ocean.

Their request for rate increases to recover costs incurred from Hurricane Michael proves the point made above—namely they have NO INTENTION of installing underground transmission lines!

In a state I previously lived in located in the Northern U.S. with snow & ice storms every winter, our Governor would NOT approve any Utility rate increase unless it was accompanied by an “ironclad” commitment to bury at least 500 miles of power transmission lines! This was very effective, as our power was sustained even in the worst of winter storms.

I was under the impression Florida had adopted similar policies regarding utility rate increases after Hurricane Andrew destroyed Homestead. I realize all new subdivisions are now required to bury utility lines, but this does not help homeowners and businesses if the main transmission lines are above ground and therefore are vulnerable in Hurricane situations. FPU's request for rate increases proves this!

Please make FPU bury the main power transmission lines before any rate increase is approved!

Sincerely,


James D. Matison