## State of Florida



## **Public Service Commission**

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE:

10/07/2021

TO:

Office of Commission Clerk

FROM:

Bureau of Consumer Assistance, Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach

RE:

Customer Correspondence

Please add the attached customer correspondence to Docket Correspondence-Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket 20210016.

2021 OCT -7 MM 9: 3

September 29, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

To Members of the Florida Public Service Commission:

I live in Deland, Florida, and installed solar panels in the fall of 2020 and since January 2021, my energy bill has been \$13.00. I considered the installation an investment in actively protecting the environment, and in my financial health, safeguarding against the certainty of rising electric costs.

I read on the Duke Energy site that the Commission has allowed Duke to change its billing structure so that a minimum fee of \$30 can be imposed, regardless of usage. I believe this is a blatant discrimination against customers who decided to use solar energy, along with attempts to discourage further solar usage. Further, electricity has historically been billed according to usage, so this change to allow a minimum is biased in favor of the electric company's profitability to extract monies from customers for electricity they have not used. I consider this ruling to be unethical, greed-based, poverty-enabling, completely environmentally insensitive and ripe for abuse with the enticement of everrising minimums.

Further, this ruling represents a complete abandonment of your mission statement of "reliable utility services at fair prices" and the stated goals (in part) of "regulatory process that is fair and unbiased;" "regulatory oversight to protect consumers;" and to "encourage efficiency and innovation."

The goal of "...while offering rate base regulated utilities an opportunity to earn a fair return on their investments" is also no longer valid with the rule allowing a minimum base. Specifically note, the current rule gives absolutely no consideration to the customer's fair return on <u>their</u> investment.

Perhaps a change in name is in order to: Florida Public Disservice Commission.

I am requesting that the Commission reverse their biased and discriminatory decision, forcing electric companies once again to the usage-based billing. A reply to this letter is requested.

Sincerely, Carale J. Gilher

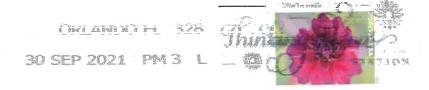
Carole J. Gilbert

504 Black Ironwood Drive

Deland, FL 32724

PS: How many Commission members are using solar energy for their home electric needs?





OCT 07 2021

PLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

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