

Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Consumer Correspondence; Diane Hood
Subject: FW: To CLK Docket 20230001

Please, add to docket 20230001.

From: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 1:30 PM
To: John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: To CLK Docket 20230001

From: mleppe@aol.com <mleppe@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Unsustainable

I am sitting here looking at my new electric bill which has gone up \$53 a month, while shaking my head trying to figure out how my husband and I, now in our 70's and on social security, will manage all these skyrocketing bills for essential needs? Water, electric, gas, home insurance, health insurance, car insurance all has gone up exponentially. I can't even imagine what it must be like for young families starting out, or for people already in dire circumstances. Duke says that the increase is due to rising fuel costs. I have been in this house for 36 years and have never seen a hike like this. Duke has millions of customers and that's the best they could work out for hard working families just getting by, or for people living on social security. Everyone gets a hike regardless of your circumstance. It seems like they're saying "too bad, so sad" to the customers. I guess you can if you're the only deal in town. I do not live above my means, so what should I give up? Everyone wants more but there is only so much to give, my friends. Think of that the next time you get together to raise your prices \$50 dollars at a time. Most Americans are scraping by these days.

I don't doubt that you are extremely aware of the hardships people are facing these days. Simply going to the supermarket now takes a certain amount of strategy to put a healthy meal on the table. I'm also sure you get swamped with constituents complaining about these drastic and sometimes even catastrophic rate hikes. Every day it gets harder and harder, and something must be done to bring a little relief to people. My guess is that this won't be resolved any time soon, but it must be resolved. Perhaps the next time you meet with your colleagues to consider the next rate hike, while trying to figure out how to keep your investors happy, take a step back to think about your average family and your elderly. People are seeing their earnings sucked up by insurance companies, utilities, food, fuel, as they try to keep a roof over their heads. For most people this is a real crisis...a game changer that adversely affects the quality of our lives. I've worked so hard for so long to raise a family and now putting money into my savings is impossible because my earnings are being hacked away by rising costs.

I understand companies needing to cover costs and having to make investors happy, and I think I speak for the majority when I say, consumers cannot continue to bear these burdens.

Thank you for your time.