

May 28, 2021

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

Re: Financial impacts on utility customers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

FPSC Docket No. 20210000-OT

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Enclosed is Peoples Gas System's Customer Impact Data related to COVID-19 for the month of April 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (813) 228-1444.

Sincerely,

/s/ Paula K. Brown

pkbrown@tecoenergy.com

Paula K. Brown
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Enclosure(s)

cc: Andrew Brown

Kandi M. Floyd Derrick MacDonald

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### Customer Impact Data Related to COVID-19

Utility: Peoples Gas Reporting Month: April 20

Reporting Month: April 2021

The report should include data as of the last day of reporting month and is due by the last day of the following month

Delinquent Accounts		
Number of Accounts 60 -89 days past due	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	2,424	3,416
Commercial / Industrial	142	263
Number of Accounts 90+ days past due	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	4,732	4,313
Commercial / Industrial	353	310

Amount in Arrears		
Amount 60 -89 days past due	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	\$304,907	\$260,659
Commercial / Industrial	\$149,266	\$147,288
Amount 90+ days past due	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	\$473,965	\$401,629
Commercial / Industrial	\$350,826	\$286,404

Payment Arrangements		
Number of New Payment Arrangements	Reporting Month	March 2020 through Current (cumulative)
Residential	1,378	27,099
Commercial / Industrial	197	3,275
Average Duration of New Payment Arrangement	Reporting Month	
Residential	33	
Commercial / Industrial	32	
Percent of Customers Under a Payment Arrangement	Reporting Month	
Residential <sup>1</sup>	0.4%	
Commercial / Industrial <sup>2</sup>	0.4%	

Number of residential customers under a payment arrangement/total number of residential customers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Number of commercial-industrial customers under a payment arrangement/total number of commercial-industrial customers.

Bad Debt		
*Incremental Bad Debt	Reporting Month	March 2020 through Current (cumulative)
Incremental Bad Debt <sup>3</sup>	\$30,685	\$365,987

30 Difference between reporting month and the average of the same month for the prior three years; excluding any prior months that were impacted by named hurricanes. If a prior month is excluded, provide an explanation.

Late Fees		
Number of Assessed Late Fees	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	52,246	60,381
Commercial / Industrial	5,106	8,807

Discontinuance of Service		
Number of Customers who received a Notice of Discontinuance of Service	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	1,668	0
Commercial / Industrial	1,521	0
Number of Customers Disconnected from Service	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	570	0
Commercial / Industrial	84	0
Number of Customers Reconnected to Service	Reporting Month	Prior Year Month
Residential	413	0
Commercial / Industrial	56	0

Customer Communications		
Communications	Reporting Month	March 2020 through Current (cumulative)
Customer-wide COVID-related mass communications (paper, email, phone calls, social media, etc.)	Website Update - 1	COVID -19 Mass emails - 3 Social Media Post - 49 Bill Onsert - 2 News Release - 4 Print Message on Bill - 2 Website Update - 3
Targeted COVID-related communications to individual customers (paper, email, phone calls, text, etc.)	Gas Phone Calls - 607 Gas Final Notices - 2,740 Combination Billing (PGS&TEC) - Phone Calls - 16 Combination Billing(PGS&TEC) Final Notices - 449	Gas Emails - 15,755 Gas Phone Calls - 16,205 Gas Final Notices - 25,812 Combination Billing (PGS&TEC Emails - 6,895 Combination Billing (PGS&TEC Phone Calls -2,772 Combination Billing (PGS&TEC Final Notices - 7,416

#### Customer Communications

Please provide samples of any new communication/media notices provided to customers concerning the utility's past-due accounts / payment arrangement / late payment waivers / disconnection / reconnection policies issued within the last 30-days. Please see Attachment 1

In the past 30-days, has the utility made changes to, or implemented new, policies related to past-due accounts / payment arrangements / late payment waivers / disconnection / reconnection? If so, please explain. N/A

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
UNDOCKETED- CUSTOMER IMPACT

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### April 2021 COVID-related Web content added (Tampa Electric and Peoples Gas)

Added Rental and Utility Bill Assistance on:

https://www.tampaelectric.com/residential/payment-options/payment-assistance/

https://www.peoplesgas.com/residential/payment-options/payment-assistance/

## **Emergency Rental and Utility Bill Assistance**

NEW IN 2021 Several Florida cities and counties have received additional emergency rental assistance funding through the Florida Emergency Rental Assistance Program to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to hardship related to COVID-19.

Eligible households may receive up to 12 months of rent and/or utility assistance. An additional three months of assistance will be available to the most vulnerable households at risk of losing housing (up to 18 months maximum), while funds are available.

An eligible household is defined as a renter household in which at least one or more individuals qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19; demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and has a household income at or below 80% area median income.

Apply for assistance: View this list of cities and counties ■ that include a link to complete an application for rent and utility bill assistance. The application can be submitted by either an eligible household or by a landlord on behalf of that eligible household. Funds will be paid directly to landlords and utility service providers.

Additional details for customers residing in the city of Tampa and/or Hillsborough County.

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### Added Restaurant Revitalization Assistance on:

https://www.tampaelectric.com/business/payment-options/business-assistance/https://www.peoplesgas.com/business/payment-options/business-assistance/

### Restaurant Revitalization Fund

The American Rescue Plan Act established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide financial assistance to restaurants and other eligible businesses that continue to face COVID-19-related hardship to stay open. This program will provide restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023.

#### Eligible for Assistance

- Restaurants
- · Food stands, food trucks, food carts
- Caterers
- · Bars, saloons, lounges, taverns
- · Snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars
- Bakeries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33 percent of gross receipts)
- Brewpubs, tasting rooms, taprooms (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33 percent of gross receipts)
- Breweries and/or microbreweries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33 percent of gross receipts)
- Wineries and distilleries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33 percent of gross receipts)
- Inns (onsite sales of food and beverage to the public comprise at least 33 percent of gross receipts)
- Licensed facilities or premises of a beverage alcohol producer where the public may taste, sample, or purchase products

For more information on requirements and to download a sample application please visit the U.S. Small Business Administration Restaurant Revitalization Fund page.

Restaurant Revitalization Fund. (2021). Retrieved April 22, 2021, from https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/restaurant-revitalization-fund.

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**April 2021 COVID-related social media posts (Peoples Gas)** 

No COVID related posts