

Antonia Hover

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 8:26 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20210015
Attachments: just plain wrong; Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

See attached customer correspondence and FPSC reply for Docket No. 20210015.

Antonia Hover

From: Beatrice Balboa <beatricebalboa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 8:29 PM
To: Ellen Plendl
Subject: just plain wrong
Attachments: Get ready for higher electric bills; Regulators sign off on FPL rate increase deal.pdf; "This is a terrible day for FPL customers," as regulators approve company's rate hike plan _ Florida _ islandernews.com.pdf; A Southwest Florida woman begging for a new light pole.pdf

28 October 2021 2030 hours

Ellen Plendl
Regulatory Consultant
Florida Public Service Commission
Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
1-800-342-3552 (phone)
1-800-511-0809 (fax)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my deepest disappointment and disgust that FPL and the FPL Corporation were permitted by the State of Florida Public Service Commission members to increase **hardworking taxpayers working class** residential rates to outrageous levels while subsidizing **special interest groups electrical rates of the wealthy and powerful members of the State of Florida society**, further underscoring a complete abrogation of the social contract between the governed and government.

In addition, FPL does not even seem to work with the communities that "pay the lifestyles of these captains of electricity industry"

"Throwing good money after bad money" to an energy industrial sector that only seeks immediate private financial largess at the expense of the public common good (reliable and robust electrical delivery infrastructure at reasonable rates) speaks volume of the ongoing dialogue between corporate behemoths like FPL and the small people (salt of the earth) of this social contract.

Thank you for your time in these matters and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Beatrice Balboa
1010 South Ocean Boulevard, Unit 1008
Pompano Beach, Fl 33062-6631
USA



FPL

TALLAHASSEE (NEWS SERVICE FLORIDA)

Get ready for higher electric bills; Regulators sign off on FPL rate increase deal

Published: October 26, 2021 4:20 PM EDT

State utility regulators Tuesday approved a series of base-rate increases for Florida Power & Light that will result in higher monthly bills for customers in January.

Despite opponents' arguments that residential and small business customers will end up subsidizing costs for some larger customers, the Public Service Commission unanimously supported a four-year rate settlement, which calls for a \$692 million increase in base rates in January and another increase of \$560 million in 2023. Additional increases are planned in 2024 and 2025 to pay for solar projects.

Commission Chairman Gary Clark noted receiving more than 1,100 emails from consumers about the proposal and indicated he had concerns about ratepayers subsidizing FPL's solar expansion and a electric-vehicle charging station program. But, Clark said he understands the need for clean energy investments and pointed to other benefits of the settlement, such as predictability in rates.

"There are things within that predictability that I think give homeowners, give businesses some assurity going into the future, that they have a stable rate climate, they can do their budgeting accordingly," Clark said. "I think that is a very positive, very positive thing."

Commissioners also added a requirement for annual reports on the company's expansion of infrastructure for electric vehicles.

FPL reached the rate settlement in August with the state Office of Public Counsel, which represents consumers; the Florida Retail Federation; the Florida Industrial Power Users Group; and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. Three other parties later signed on.

The rate plan incorporates the merger of FPL and Northwest Florida's Gulf Power. That merger formally took effect Jan. 1, but it came with issues such as the utilities having widely different rates.

In a prepared statement, FPL President and CEO Eric Silagy said the deal benefits all customers by keeping "bills low" while "accelerating investments in clean energy."

"Florida is a rapidly growing state on the front lines of climate change, and our customers deserve bold, decisive, long-term actions as we continue building a more resilient and sustainable energy future all of us can depend on, including future generations," Silagy said in the statement.

For customers outside of Northwest Florida who use 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity a month, bills are expected to go from the current \$101.70 to \$113.85 in January. Those bills would increase to \$115.52 in 2023, \$116.05 in 2024, and \$117.02 in 2025. In addition to base rates, the totals include costs for such things as natural gas for power plants.

The plan uses what is described as a “transition rider” to take into account the substantially different rates that FPL and Gulf have charged. The result will leave Northwest Florida customers paying more than FPL customers in other areas.

Under the plan, Gulf residential customers who use 1,000 kilowatt hours a month will see their bills go from the current \$129.24 to \$137.49 in January. They then would see the bills decrease to \$134.44 in 2023, \$130.25 in 2024 and \$126.47 in 2025.

FPL filed a base-rate proposal in March and then negotiated the settlement, which trimmed the original proposal by about \$428 million. The settlement, in part, reduced a targeted return on equity — a closely watched measure of profitability — from 11.5 percent to 10.6 percent.

“I believe that all of the parties are to be commended for the outstanding job that you did, negotiating on behalf of the folks that you represented,” Clark said. “It’s pretty obvious some of you did a little better job than others.”

But the settlement was opposed by Floridians Against Increased Rates, the League of United Latin American Citizens of Florida, the Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida and Florida Rising, which have members who are residential customers of FPL.

Those groups argued, in part, that the plan will require residential and small business customers to subsidize the rates of large commercial and industrial customers.

“To put it succinctly, a settlement that includes so much wasteful spending to double down on fossil fuels, that transfers so much wealth from residential customers to commercial and industrial customers, and that literally leaves residential customers worse off than in FPL’s original proposal, cannot be in the public interest,” attorneys for the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida and Florida Rising wrote in an Oct. 11 brief. “This ‘settlement’ gives FPL everything they want — and more.”

The agreement addresses a series of solar-energy issues, which FPL said will support the development of 16 million solar panels at more than 50 sites across Florida. FPL has been operating under a base-rate settlement that took effect in January 2017 and will end in December.

Author: Jim Turner, The News
Service of Florida

Do you see a typo or an error? [Let us know.](#)



https://www.islandernews.com/news/florida/this-is-a-terrible-day-for-fpl-customers-as-regulators-approve-companys-rate-hike-plan/article_b7b131a4-378c-11ec-b07f-bb8876f7f7cf.html

“This is a terrible day for FPL customers,” as regulators approve company's rate hike plan

Oct 27, 2021



Tuesday, Florida’s Public Service Commission approved a Florida Power and Light (FPL) four-year rate plan which will increase FPL’s revenue by \$4.9 billion through 2025.

According to the South Florida Sun Sentinel, the typical bill for FPL’s 5.6 million customers will increase by 18% more each month by 2025 than they paid in January 2021.

Mike Hightower, president of Floridians Against Increased Rates said, “This is a terrible day for FPL customers.”



In August, FPL had agreed to reduce its original four-year rate increase request by \$1.3 billion. The Sun Sentinel reported that FPL now says rising natural gas costs will wipe out those savings.

A “typical” 1,000 bill in 2021 will increase 18.2 percent to \$117.06 by January 2025.

For more from the Sun Sentinel, [click here](#).



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A local woman wants a new light pole in her neighborhood



“When it gets dark here, it is just black here. It’s crazy that we can’t have a simple street light.”



By: Lauryn Moss

ALVA, Fla. — A local woman is left in the dark. She is begging for a new light pole in her neighborhood after a construction accident left her without a light pole in her cul-de-sac.

"I told my husband I said oh my gosh he just backed into the power pole. The power pole was like that and it went down. He got out looked at it. He looked at his truck like oh, oh well and then proceeded to back up again and go wherever in order to pour his concrete," Suzi Hosfeld said.

Hosfeld has been living without that light since late August.

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AD



"When it gets dark here it is just black here. It's crazy that we can't have a simple street light that was here and has been here for years," Hosfeld said.

She and her husband often take their dogs for a walk in the middle of the night, but its pitch black. She just wants the light pole to be fixed.

"All I am asking for is light just light. I need someone to just come out here and put it up where it came down," Hosfeld said.

She said she contacted the construction company. They simply threw the light pole in the garbage, which created a potentially new hazard.

“To make sure the ground here is safe,” Hosfeld said. “What if the lawn guy comes out with the weed eater and hits a live wire.”

She said Florida Power and Light hasn't been helpful either.

“I called the construction people, D.R. Horton. I called Florida Power and Light. Nobody was claiming responsibility. No one owned the power pole,” she said.

Hosfeld said FPL owns the other light pole's in her gated community. All she wants is to enjoy her early morning walks.

“We are up early. My husband has cancer, so sometimes he can't sleep because of the radiation, so we are up at 4 or 5 in the morning. It's pitch black here,” she said.

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Antonia Hover

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 8:25 AM
To: 'Beatrice Balboa'
Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

Ms. Beatrice Balboa
beatricebalboa@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Balboa:

This is in response to your October 28 email to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) regarding Florida Power & Light Company (FPL).

We will add your feedback and the articles you shared to Docket No. 20210015.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 1-800-342-3552 or by fax at 1-800-511-0809.

Sincerely,

Ellen Plendl
Regulatory Consultant
Florida Public Service Commission
Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
1-800-342-3552 (phone)
1-800-511-0809 (fax)