

**Antonia Hover**

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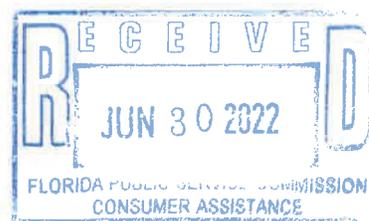
**From:** Ellen Plendl  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2022 11:27 AM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20210015  
**Attachments:** dan-brunger-correspondence.pdf; dan-brunger-response-letter.pdf

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

Dan Brunger  
400 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951-2608

June 27, 2022

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



Dear FPLC:

RE: Net Energy Metering

Recently the Florida Public service Commission (FPSC) approved a rate increase affecting consumers with photovoltaic panels connected to Florida Power and Light (FPL). The increase in effect raises rate by more than 100% on some months for those consumers.

State Representative Laurence McClure appears to be the primary mover from the Florida Legislature to push for the rate increase. His prime concern was that certain wealthy consumers are taking advantage of the solar energy program at the expense of other consumers and unfairly burdening those not participating. "Fair and equitable" is the catch phrase.

On that issue I wish to mention to all concerned that I chose to purchase a photovoltaic system, of which I paid for in lieu of purchasing a new road conveyance, thereby making a choice. That was a choice I made and a sacrifice. My most recent automobile is 9 years old. The purchase was on a note with the payoff over 240 months and 75% over the purchase cost. Tell me where the cost analysis and breakeven point was calculated in the request and approval. Consumers are given choices in life. All consumers are NOT at the same level or stage in life.

The IRS offered a Tax Credit, not a tax break on the system. The amount is based on any tax above the Standard Deduction.

During the ownership of the solar equipment, maintenance and upkeep are required. The inverters are warranted for 10 years. If, afterwards they need replacing, FPL will not cover the cost. Likewise the photovoltaic panels, they are warranted for 20 years. Was that cost factored in for the consumer? How about a removal and reinstall during a re-roof? The Insurance Industry seems to mandate shingle re-roofs every 10 to 15 years. Will FPL pay for that? The consumer owning the system will! What I'm

stating is the consumer assumes risk for installation of those photovoltaic panels.

Another issue was FPL required the consumer to only generate 90% of the electricity. That means FPL will collect income from the consumer year in and year out.

FPL should be taking into consideration the expansion of solar energy and commending the consumer for generating excess energy back into the grid thereby lessening the possibility of brownouts. Instead the FPSC and FPL penalize the consumer for having foresight to mitigate grid failure. FPSC obviously does not take into consideration the increase of population and units attaching to the grid but seems to think the grid is rigid and not expanding, thereby the perception is FPL will have the same number of consumers indefinitely.

During the most recent legislative session a bill was passed to exclude a percentage of excess credit back to the grid. Was that based on the wholesale cost or retail cost? That is theft. I am happy the Governor vetoed the legislation.

US Department of Energy (DOE) released a Solar Futures Study to decarbonize the nation's power grid. DOE also released a "State Level Employment Projection for Clean Energy Tech..." There are other entities pushing for solar. The President of the United States (POTUS) is adamant about solar. If Utilities keep requesting more from the consumer who has the solar systems, then at what cost? Where will the break-even point be if it keeps on moving outward?

By the way, will EVs be levied because they do not use fossil fuels which are taxed for road use? It's disproportionate to charge a photovoltaic panel consumer and not charge a EV owner for their "fair share" of the road tax.

In conclusion I am disappointed in FPSC and the Legislature for this utility increase which I see as a tax and it was not voted on.

Sincerely,

Dan Brunger  
400 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

CC:  
Senator Mayfield  
Rep Altman  
Rep McClure

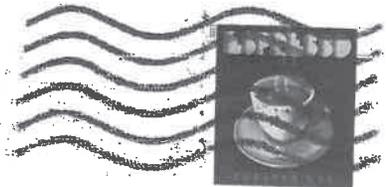


 Daniel L. Brunger  
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Melbourne Bch., FL 32951

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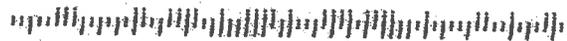


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Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RECEIVED  
JUN 30 2022  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

32399-085099



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STATE OF FLORIDA



OFFICE OF  
CONSUMER ASSISTANCE & OUTREACH  
CYNTHIA L. MUIR  
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(850) 413-6482

# Public Service Commission

June 30, 2022

Mr. Dan Brunger  
400 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951-2608

RE: FPSC Inquiry 1398783C

Dear Mr. Brunger:

This is in response to your inquiry with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) regarding Florida Power & Light Company's (FPL) minimum bill charge. We appreciate the opportunity to respond directly to you.

The FPSC approved FPL's general base rate settlement agreement in Order No. PSC-2021-0446-S-EI, issued on December 2, 2021, in Docket No. 20210015-EI. The settlement agreement was entered into by FPL and various parties representing consumers, including the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) who advocates on behalf of Florida consumers. The settlement agreement includes numerous provisions with regards to FPL's base rates through the end of 2025.

The agreement also contains a provision that will raise the minimum bill charge to \$25 for all residential and general service non-demand customers. The minimum bill provision went into effect in June 2022. FPL was to notify its customers of the new minimum bill in bill inserts 30 days prior to implementation.

The minimum monthly bill does not replace the existing customer charge; instead, FPL will only charge the minimum bill when a customer's total monthly bill does not exceed \$25, excluding any taxes or other additional charges.

FPL explained that the minimum bill provision was included in the settlement agreement to ensure that all residential and general service non-demand customers contribute towards fixed costs of maintaining the electric system, costs which exist as a result of serving even limited amounts of energy to customers. The Commission approved the settlement agreement as being in the public interest when taken as a whole, and providing a comprehensive and balanced resolution to FPL's original petition for a base rate increase that provides rate stability for FPL's customers.

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PSC Website: <http://www.floridapsc.com>

Internet E-mail: [contact@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:contact@psc.state.fl.us)

Mr. Dan Brunger

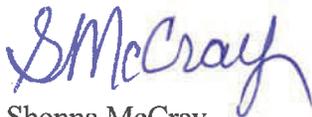
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June 30, 2022

We have added your concerns to our files as a protest to the FPL's Rate Case, docket 20210015.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Ellen Plendl at 1-800-342-3552 or by fax at 1-800-511-0809.

Sincerely,



Shonna McCray

Regulatory Program Administrator

Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach

SM:mep