Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 1:24 PM **To:** Consumer Correspondence; Diane Hood

Subject: FW: To CLK Docket 20230001

Please, add to docket 20230001.

From: Diane Hood <DHOOD@PSC.STATE.FL.US> On Behalf Of Consumer Contact

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 1:21 PM **To:** John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

Subject: To CLK Docket 20230001

From: John Schmidt < jsps2000@outlook.com > Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 3:36 PM

To: Consumer Contact < <u>Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US</u>>

Subject: Electrical Rate Increases Due to Natural Gas Prices

Good Afternoon. I hope you are going ask the Power Companies for rate reductions now that last year's spike in natural gas prices have eroded. While the natural gas price surged to almost \$9/mmbtu last summer, those prices have fallen to below rates in 2020 and closer to historical prices. Any surcharges or increases given to these power companies based on their natural gas price generation should be rolled back to consumers immediately. There was no need for this spike to be approved so quickly because private industry had to absorb it and is now benefiting from significant forecast reductions. I'm not sure if you have approved Duke's April 2023 rate increase request but it must be denied. The \$795M in net fuel costs have evaporated. Natural gas price this morning was \$2.18/mmbtu. No one with a good conscience could even submit this increase anymore. Sure, they had a short-term spike but they are also a public company and could reduce their dividend payout or operate at a reduced margin for a couple of quarters. Not fair for every risk of operating a utility to be passed along. Even their storm losses are partially covered by insurance, government FEMA support and Bond offerings.

Please do the right thing and stop this increase.

John R. Schmidt 1320 Johns Cove Lane Oakland, FL 34787 407-670-4792