CORRESPONDENCE 7/14/2025 DOCUMENT NO. 05651-2025

July 3, 2025

Office of the Commission Clerk 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-850

Dear sir or Madam:

I am writing to protest a proposal contained in Docket No. 2050029-GU, the Peoples Gas System request for a future increase in base rates.

We have been a TECO Peoples Gas customers for over two decades. We own our home and rely on natural gas for heating and hot water. The weather in the Panhandle of Florida will get cold, but even so, during 2024 we did not use more than 50 "therms" for both heating and hot water during any single month.

The Peoples Gas System request for a future increase in base rates includes a proposal to eliminate the lowest usage customer rate class for new customers. I believe this proposal is unreasonable. When my wife and I became TECO customers we were new homeowners just starting our family. We are now empty nester retirees in a home we own without a mortgage. The cost savings for natural gas usage for heating and hot water over the years has been substantial. We paid a lower base rate because we used fewer "therms" both per month and annually. New customers should be provided the same benefits and cost savings we received.

Also, as part of the Peoples Gas System request for a future increase in base rates is a proposal to consolidate the other two customer rate classes into one class with a single customer base rate charge for the new customer class. My question regarding this part of their proposal is simple: Why not separate customer rate classes into two categories – Private and Commercial with delineations within according to "therm" usage with base rates reflecting category status? Demand for or use of natural gas by private homeowners will likely not equal that of commercial users. Customer base rates should therefore be different. At least that is my opinion.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments regarding Docket No. 2050029-GU, the Peoples Gas System request for a future increase in base rates.

Respectfully-

Paul D. Bohac, Ed.D.

CLERK

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