

Tristan Davis

From: Tristan Davis on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 9:15 AM
To: 'Tony Formichelli'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Objection to Florida City Gas Rate Increase — Docket No. 20260026-GU

Good Morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20260026, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance.

Thank you!

Tristan Davis
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6121

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From: Tony Formichelli <tony@formichelli.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 8:26 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Objection to Florida City Gas Rate Increase — Docket No. 20260026-GU

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To whom it may concern:

Please accept the attached letter regarding Florida City Gas's proposed rate increase, Docket No. 20260026-GU. Please place my comments in the official docket file.

Regards,

Tony

Tony Formichelli | 3560 Salty Beach Lane, Viera, FL 32940-6594 | M: 203-610-4593

Anthony V. Formichelli

3560 Salty Beach Lane, Viera, FL 32940 | Mobile: 203-610-4593 | email: tony@formichelli.com

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

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

Subject: Objection to Florida City Gas Rate Increase — Docket No. 20260026-GU

Dear Commission Clerk:

I am a Florida City Gas residential customer and respectfully object to the proposed rate increase in Docket No. 20260026-GU.

My objections are based on the following concerns:

1. **The proposed increase is excessive.**
Florida City Gas estimates that the average residential customer's bill would increase by approximately **\$13.57 per month, or 24.29%**. This is a substantial increase, particularly for retirees and households living on fixed incomes.
2. **The monthly customer charge would nearly double.**
The residential customer charge is proposed to increase from **\$18.00 to \$36.50 per month**. This fixed charge must be paid regardless of how little natural gas a customer uses, which unfairly penalizes customers who conserve energy or have low usage.
3. **Customers recently absorbed a prior rate increase.**
Florida City Gas's previous rate case was filed in May 2022, with new rates becoming effective in May 2023. The company is now seeking another substantial increase only a few years later.
4. **The requested return on equity appears too high.**
Florida City Gas is requesting an **11.25% return on equity**. The Commission should determine whether this level of return is reasonable and necessary before requiring customers to pay higher rates.
5. **Corporate and technology expenses should receive close scrutiny.**
The request includes costs associated with an enterprise resource planning and corporate transformation project. Customers should not be required to pay for corporate-wide systems unless Florida City Gas clearly demonstrates that the expenses are prudent, necessary and directly beneficial to Florida customers.
6. **Acquisition savings should benefit customers.**
Florida City Gas states that its acquisition by Chesapeake Utilities created operational efficiencies and synergies. Those savings should be fully identified and used to offset any proposed rate increase before additional costs are passed on to customers.
7. **The SAFE surcharge should not simply become a permanent base-rate expense.**
The proposal includes transferring approximately **\$16.4 million** in SAFE surcharge revenue into base rates. The Commission should confirm that these costs remain necessary and should not automatically become a permanent component of customers' monthly bills.

I respectfully request that the Commission deny the proposed increase or substantially reduce and phase it in. At a minimum, the Commission should reject the proposed doubling of the residential customer charge and require Florida City Gas to demonstrate that every requested expense is reasonable, prudent and necessary.

Thank you for considering my comments.

