

Collin Roehner

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2016 10:21 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket 160021-EI
Attachments: Re Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company; Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

See attached correspondence and reply to add to the correspondence side of Docket 160021-EI.

Collin Roehner

From: Beatrice Balboa <beatricebalboa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 8:39 PM
To: Rhonda Hicks
Cc: Ellen Plendl; Randy Roland; Ruth McHargue
Subject: Re: Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company
Attachments: FPL seeks to bar Loxahatchee couple from challenging rate hike _
www.mypalmbeachpost.pdf; Loxahatchee couple granted intervenor status in FPL rate
case _ Protecting Your Pocket.pdf

I was reading the latest news media article(s) regarding the latest Florida Power & Light Co. (FPL) rate payer activities throughout the State of Florida with great interest. Please review and implement an action plan to thoroughly address this extremely troubling issue. Media reports continue to underscore the ongoing significant anti-rate payer obstruction, obfuscation and other anti-consumer protection protocols and procedures by FPL, despite strong evidence of adverse impact of these activities. It is imperative that these FPL activities be brought into compliance with Federal, State and County laws and statutes to ensure fairness to the proposed electrical rate increases. Please coordinate, collaborate and cooperate on Federal, State and/or local jurisdictional levels in addressing these concerns potentially impacting adversely the public's finances, policies, trust, confidence, and quality of life issues. Thank you for your time in this matter and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Balboa

1010 South Ocean Boulevard, Apt. 1008

Pompano Beach, Fl 33062-6631



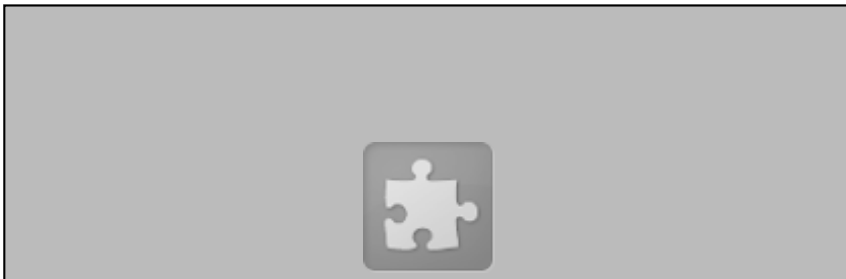
FPL seeks to bar Loxahatchee couple from challenging rate hike

BUSINESS

By [Susan Salisbury](#) - Palm Beach Post Staff Writer



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Updated: 2:29 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2016 | Posted: 12:22 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, 2016

Florida Power & Light Co. is again trying to block a Loxahatchee couple from intervening in its rate case as it seeks a \$1.34 billion four-year increase in customer bills.

At issue is the Florida Public Service Commission's 2012 decision to allow an individual residential customer to challenge FPL's rate case outside representation from the Office of Public Counsel.

Alexandria and Daniel Larson were granted intervenor status in FPL's rate case four years ago. On July 22, the Larsons' attorney, Nathan Skop, a former PSC commissioner, filed a similar petition for the couple to intervene so they can fully participate.

FPL has again opposed their intervention, arguing that the interests of residential customers such as the Larsons are already represented by the Office of Public Counsel, AARP and other intervenors,

FPL's attorney John Butler wrote.

Intervenors have the right to ask FPL questions about its proposed rate increase, file briefs, make opening statements, call witnesses and cross-examine them. Hearings in the quasi-judicial proceedings are scheduled to be held in Tallahassee for two weeks starting Aug. 22.



Florida Power & Light Co. seeks a \$1.34 billion four-year increase in customer bills. (Richard Graulich / The Palm Beach Post)

Alexandria Larson, a former bookstore manager who has fought FPL on various issues for more than 30 years, said Friday she wants to intervene because the proposed rate hike could impact every FPL customer for years to come.

“This will affect every single solitary thing you buy. If rates go up, car prices will go up. Groceries will go up. All consumer goods will go up,” said Larson, who spoke against the rate hike at FPL customer service hearings in West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Miami in June.

Butler, however, argued in filings that the Larsons have no particular interest in the proceeding different from that of any of FPL's 4.8 million residential customers, and their intervention could potentially increase the case's cost.

FPL spokeswoman Sarah Gatewood said FPL had no comment beyond its filings.

The Larsons' attorney, Skop, said the fact the OPC represents consumers doesn't curtail the rights of individuals to participate.

"Undoubtedly FPL doesn't want their own ratepayers to participate in a case deciding one of the largest electric rate hikes in Florida's history," Skop said.

Monday, Public Counsel J.R. Kelly reiterated his opinion that a utility's customer has the right to intervene individually. The standard is no different for an individual than it is for groups such as retailers, industrial power users, military bases or others.

Skop said FPL counsel had an ethical obligation to make the commission aware of the fact that the Larsons were granted intervenor status in 2012 and failed to do so.

"My clients' subsequent reply, which FPL seeks to strike, properly brought that fact to the attention of the commission and attached the prior FPSC order granting intervention to the Larsons in the 2012 FPL rate case."

Skop was on the commission in 2009 when FPL sought a \$1.2 billion rate hike and was granted only \$75 million. Only one of the commissioners who made that decision was re-appointed.

What is an intervenor?

Being granted intervenor status means you have the right to ask FPL questions about its proposed rate increase, file briefs, make opening statements, call witnesses and cross-examine them. Hearings in the quasi-judicial proceedings are scheduled to be held in Tallahassee for two weeks starting Aug. 22.

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Susan Salisbury

Loxahatchee couple granted intervenor status in FPL rate case

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FPL

PSC Commissioner Lisa Edgar has ruled that Alexandria and Daniel Larson may intervene in FPL's rate case.

Daniel and Alexandria Larson, a Loxahatchee couple Florida Power & Light Co. had sought to ban from fully participating in its upcoming rate case has been granted intervenor status.

Florida Public Service Commissioner Lisa Edgar, who is the prehearing officer for FPL's proposed \$1.34 billion rate increase request, issued the order Tuesday.

The PSC is scheduled to hold hearings in Tallahassee for two weeks starting Aug. 22. Intervenors have the right to call and cross-examine witnesses and more in the case that will be run similarly to a trial.

Edgar wrote in the order that the Larsons meet the two-prong standing test established in a 1981 case. They are customers of FPL, and they will be substantially affected by the proceeding.

"Additionally, this Commission has a long history of granting intervention to residential customers of utilities subject to its regulation," Edgar wrote.

FPL attorney John Butler objected to the Larsons intervening in the case because he said, they alleged no substantial interests that are unique or are not being addressed by other intervenors.

The Office of Public Counsel, which represents all ratepayers, AARP, the Federal Executive Agencies and the Florida Industrial Power Users Group have also intervened and addressed the same issues as the Larsons, Butler wrote.

Edgar stated she does not find it necessary for the Larsons to specifically allege which of their specific interests OPC may or may not represent.

"I'm happy they granted intervention," said Nathan Skop, a former PSC commissioner who is the Larson's attorney.

In 2012 FPL lost a similar effort to keep the Larsons from participating as intervenors in that rate case.

FPL spokeswoman Sarah Gatewood said the company has no further comment and does not plan to appeal the order.

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Collin Roehner

From: Randy Roland
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2016 10:15 AM
To: 'beatricebalboa@gmail.com'
Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Florida Power & Light Company

Ms. Beatrice Balboa
beatricebalboa@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Balboa:

This is in response to your August 11, 2016 E-mail to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC), regarding Florida Power & Light Company (FPL).

We appreciate your additional comments and will add your E-mail to the correspondence side of Docket No. 160021-EI.

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

Sincerely,

Randy Roland
Regulatory Program Administrator
Florida Public Service Commission