

Re: Docket #

Erin Kadan
3610 Forest Glen Dr
Pensacola, FL 32504

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2017 FEB -1 AM 8: 18

COMMISSION
CLERK

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

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2017 JAN 32 AM 8: 16
COMMISSION
CLERK

Chairwoman Brown and Public Service Commissioners,

Thank you for selecting Pensacola State College for this hearing about Gulf Power's proposed rate increase. I was able to attend the meeting with my young son, but we had to leave before it was our turn to share our thoughts. He filled out & sent in his thoughts on the green page provided, and I would especially like to thank you for that opportunity. The first thing I would like to request from you is to please remember that children are getting involved; he learned about small government this year in school, attended a City Council meeting, and has been regularly attending the Scenic Heights Neighborhood Association's meetings. I was excited to see the room so full and so many excited & knowledgeable speakers. He was quite entertained for most of the proceedings.

I prepared some thoughts for that night, but I've learned more & scrapped them. I'd like to tell you a little about myself instead.

We moved to Pensacola in Feb. 2010. My husband worked at Olive Garden. We chose Pensacola because I had just gotten my Bachelor's in Food Service Management, and I was interested in the tourism industry. Living on the beach was a dream for all of us. It was two months before Deepwater Horizon & we couldn't go into the water & we carried home oil from the beach on our soles. I lost my job, started working as a server in a banquet hall, and then left that for steadier money at Olive Garden. It was a challenging time for us, but we loved the Slow Food Movement's initiative to use SNAP dollars at the Farmer's Market.

In 2011, while maintaining his job at OG, my husband started a small business. Our company is a mobile auto detailing service that operates all the equipment (buffer, vacuum, & pressure washer) on solar panels attached to the roof of the van. He uses VOC free chemicals & washes average <1 gallon of water.

He's grown & business has steadily increased, we have been able to get off food stamps, and we were able to purchase a new & much nicer vehicle (we used to use an old ambulance & before that, a broken farm truck that caught on fire once). Although we've had these successes, we are still struggling. We rent our home. I don't have the power to replace the 'Florida door' that's 80% 1/4" Plexiglas (a huge loss of energy), let alone install photovoltaic tiles. I do have a series of solar panels powering various aquaponic planters with tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, basil, and okra among the produce. I have a laundry line that I use whenever it isn't too damp for the wash outside. I, like many of the speakers that

night, have installed LED lights, use surge protectors to minimize energy 'vampires,' and the appliances that I've been able to replace are Energy Star Certified. We strive to achieve a high standard of environmental stewardship, to be wonderful citizens, and to make Florida an awesome place to live.

During the hearing, the CEO of Gulf Power said he is striving for a balanced energy fleet. He expanded on that to encourage solar power, and maybe he was referring to the field at Eglin AFB, yet the highest priority is placed on coal & natural gas. Coal is dead. No, seriously, it was dinosaurs, and they're all dead. Even worse, natural gas initiatives are pushing fracking into the Everglades & other natural wetlands in our state. Even with all the proof that fracking destroys the water table, and despite the unusual earthquakes in Oklahoma. Furthering irresponsible stewardship of the Earth in general is not prudent, but I digress.

Gulf Power has been providing my family with electricity since we moved to the region. It charges us, residents of Escambia County, more than it charges to any other county in which it operates. As a company, it charges its customers more than any other company in Florida. These are unreasonable terms at best, and to increase them & offer GP more power would not be prudent.

I'm not crazy about any company having a monopoly. I think an open market is always preferable. I don't believe this is a balanced energy fleet at all. Solar technology has come a long way, and the future of Florida could be bright. However, to reward Gulf Power's monopoly on consumers and effectually punish alternative energy producers would be to douse the light of the sunshine state, and that would not be prudent.

I would like to 'ditto' the testimony of Shannon Baker, Mr. Parvetti (I don't know how to spell his name, but he spoke third), Mr. Hunt, and the numerous other concerned citizens who urged you to deny this unjust rate hike. I would like to 'ditto' every person who spoke on behalf of citizens who are less fortunate than I, who are still on SNAP benefits and are striving every day to make ends meet. I would like to 'ditto' every comment about cold children and elders who are already unable to afford enough heat in the coldest days, and to remind you that it gets very cold up here. I would like to 'ditto' the shareholders who admitted that although they really like money, this is too far.

Thank you for your time and for caring about my & my son's thoughts,



Erin Kadan

Owner, Green Clean, A Detail Company, LLC
Vice President, Scenic Heights Neighborhood Association

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PENSACOLA FL 325

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