

Collin Roehner

From: Janet Brunson
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 2:35 PM
To: 'Dale Dugas'
Cc: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Company Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Dugas:

Thank you for contacting the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) about Gulf Power Company's (Gulf) rate increase petition. Your correspondence is included in Gulf's rate case docket file (No. 160186-EI) to give Commissioners and staff an opportunity to review and understand your concerns.

January service hearings were held in Pensacola and Panama City. All customer comments—written and verbal—become a part of the record and will be reviewed and considered when PSC staff prepares its recommendation to the Commissioners on Gulf's petition.

Gulf's technical hearing before the PSC will be in March in Tallahassee. Witnesses from the utility, the Commission staff, the Office of Public Counsel (representing Gulf customers), and other intervenors in the case will present testimony, introduce exhibits, and be cross-examined before the Commissioners. Commissioners will review Gulf's need for a rate increase, its existing and proposed rate structure, and its ability to provide safe and reliable service.

Commissioners are charged with making sure that Florida's utility companies fulfill their service obligation. In its petition, Gulf based its request on several factors, including transmission projects and replacing and repairing infrastructure. The PSC will ensure that final customer rates reflect only those costs that are prudent and necessary for Gulf to deliver quality electric service.

You can find Gulf rate case information on the PSC's website, www.FloridaPSC.com. Access the Clerk's Office tab, then hit Dockets and type in Docket No. 160186. All case submissions can be found in the Documents Filing Index. If you have additional questions or need further assistance, please call PSC Consumer Assistance at 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

Bev DeMello
Assistant Director

-----Original Message-----

From: Dale Dugas [<mailto:huskerdj2@bellsouth.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 8:57 AM
To: Consumer Contact
Subject: Reject Gulf Power rate increase

Florida Public Service Commission,

Please reject Gulf Power's rate increase request.

Gulf Power has been very deceptive in getting this information to their customers. A letter without their logo, without any return address, without any identifying marks except in the small stamp area in very small plain lettering "Gulf

Power Company". Many people did not read this letter, they thought it was junk mail. Many people heard of the information through social media, word of mouth and some through the newspaper.

Sad how a company that is a monopoly conducts their business.

They advertise against an ammendment that would help the environment and their customers, then when that passes they come back with a rate increase that will hurt the environment and their customers. Shameful.

They also spend money on advertising. Why does a monopoly need to spend money on advertising? It doesn't need to. This equals more waste.

Gulf Power has the highest base rate in Florida and one of the highest in the country. This 155% base increase is exorbitant. They also say it is supposed to help pay for a power plant that is not even used for Florida customers and won't be used for many years. When else do utility consumers buy something they do not use and may not use in the future? It does not happen, this should not happen. We do not pay for water we do not use. We do not pay for trash service we do not use. We do not pay for sewer service we do not use. Etc. etc.

The Georgia plant is also one of the worst for emissions in the country and the world. This is not something we should be using in this day and age of cleaner energy and renewable resources.

How are people supposed to be able to stretch their money to pay bills. Their raises, Social Security amount are not increasing 155%, or the 6.9% increase the Gulf Power personnel try to say this increase amounts to, people do not get that much extra money in several years, but are expected to pay. What do they give up? Eating, medical needs, no air conditioning in the summer and/or heat in the winter. The Pensacola News Journal recently had an article for one county, for one agency, over 5000 people were asking for assistance to pay their utility bill. That number undoubtedly will go up if you allow this increase to occur.

Please reject Gulf Power's request for an increase in prices.

Thank-you,
Dale S. Dugas
Gulf Breeze, Florida