

**Antonia Hover**

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**From:** Ellen Plendl  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:45 PM  
**To:** Consumer Correspondence  
**Cc:** Shonna McCray  
**Subject:** RE: Docket No. 20200000  
**Attachments:** Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines; FW Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines; FW Natural Gas Rate Increases; Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

See attached customer correspondence for Docket No. 20200051.

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Shonna McCray  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:43 PM  
**To:** 'acastillo@ppines.com'  
**Subject:** Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Commissioner Angelo Castillo  
Pembroke Pines City Commission  
mailto: acastillo@ppines.com

Dear Commissioner Castillo:

Thank you for your reply.

We appreciate you sharing your views about Peoples Gas System's petition for rate increase and will add your correspondence to Docket No. 20200051.

Sincerely,

Shonna McCray  
Regulatory Program Administrator  
Florida Public Service Commission

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

**From:** Castillo, Angelo <acastillo@ppines.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:04 PM  
**To:** Shonna McCray <SMcCray@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Re: Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Ms. McCray:

I had the opportunity to speak to Ellen Plendl of your staff and she was very helpful in expanding upon the very information you provided. Our conversation brought me to realize now that perhaps my initial comments may not have been stated as precisely as I wished. I am providing you with these revised comments, offered in my individual capacity as a Pembroke Pines City Commissioner, opposing natural gas rate hikes proposed.

I oppose granting any rate hikes to any natural gas utility that refuses to pay to extend gas lines, at their own expense, into residential or commercial areas expressing an interest in buying gas.

I do not oppose connection fees, say one's own home to a gas line belonging to and installed by a gas utility at their own cost in front of said home. That is no different than how water is sold to residents by water utilities, or electricity, and other common utilities.

But the notion that built-out developments will finance the extraordinary cost of a gas utility's installation of capital infrastructure needed by them to deliver and sell natural gas into their own homes is unworkable. Whatever the reasons for this unusual construct, that approach is quintessentially unworkable, and this likely explains why so few homes in my city and many others can use clean natural gas.

I don't mind a rate increase if needed to help finance said installations. I don't mind the state finding financially workable ways to help utilities extend their services to wanting customers. I believe that over time the benefits of that

kind of effort or increase will offset the burden. But to raise rates on the few gas customers that exist now, while gas utilities do nothing to invest in the expansion of their own customer base, seems abusive to me and well, it's not much of a business model.

Therefore, I oppose any gas rate increase not tied to the expanding customer base via utility financed installation of gas pipe infrastructure, accessible by new customers, be they residential or commercial.

Thank you.

Angelo Castillo, Commissioner  
City of Pembroke Pines

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From: Shonna McCray <SMcCray@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 2:07 PM  
To: Castillo, Angelo  
Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Commissioner Angelo Castillo  
Pembroke Pines City Commission  
mailto:acastillo@ppines.com

Dear Commissioner Castillo:

This is in response to your E-mail to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) regarding the extension of natural gas facilities to residents in Pembroke Pines.

If a resident wants natural gas service provided by an investor-owned natural gas utility that serves that community and that location has not had service before, the company must extend its facilities to get the customer service. It would be up to the customer requesting the natural gas service to pay the costs for extending the service to their home or business. Each investor-owned natural gas provider's tariff contains their specific criteria on how the cost is based. If you share the provider(s) of natural gas service in Pembroke Pines, we can share the relevant tariff(s) with you.

I have attached Rule 25-7.054, Florida Administrative Code, which outlines the requirements on extension of investor-owned natural gas facilities for your review.

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,

Shonna McCray  
Regulatory Program Administrator  
Florida Public Service Commission

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

From: Castillo, Angelo <mailto:acastillo@ppines.com>  
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:22 AM  
To: Records Clerk <mailto:CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Cc: Dodge, Charles <mailto:cdodge@ppines.com>; Samuel S. Goren <mailto:SGoren@gorencherof.com>  
Subject: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Dear Friends:

I write to you today in my individual capacity as a Pembroke Pines City Commissioner. Natural gas is a clean and underused alternative to electricity that way too many residents in my city cannot access. The reason is gas companies expect homeowner associations — no shortage of those in my home city — to fund the cost of bringing their pipes into housing developments so individual homes can connect.

Asking a homeowner to pay for their home connection from a gas pipe in front of their house is reasonable. Demanding that they upfront finance capital installation of any gas company's secondary infrastructure is unreasonable. And this explains why, in my city any towns statewide, despite having a gas line running down our main roads, virtually none of our many newer homes in Pembroke Pines are connected to natural gas.

Maybe increases in gas rates wouldn't be necessary if gas companies took steps to sell more of their product. Perhaps they should be incentivized to do just that. Perhaps you should say no to increases in order to get that possibility rolling. Let them sell more product. Perhaps any increase should be set aside for debt service installation of secondary infrastructure into housing developments. Perhaps this email will be ignored. But I will have done my job. I really hope you can find a way to help make this happen.

I wish for more homes in my city and statewide to be connected to clean, low cost natural gas. Will you help achieve that outcome? Thank you.

Angelo Castillo, Commissioner  
City of Pembroke Pines

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---

**From:** Shonna McCray  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:15 PM  
**To:** Ellen Plendl  
**Subject:** FW: Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Please handle accordingly.

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

**From:** Castillo, Angelo <acastillo@ppines.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:04 PM  
**To:** Shonna McCray <SMcCray@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Re: Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Ms. McCray:

I had the opportunity to speak to Ellen Plendl of your staff and she was very helpful in expanding upon the very information you provided. Our conversation brought me to realize now that perhaps my initial comments may not have been stated as precisely as I wished. I am providing you with these revised comments, offered in my individual capacity as a Pembroke Pines City Commissioner, opposing natural gas rate hikes proposed.

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But the notion that built-out developments will finance the extraordinary cost of a gas utility's installation of capital infrastructure needed by them to deliver and sell natural gas into their own homes is unworkable. Whatever the reasons for this unusual construct, that approach is quintessentially unworkable, and this likely explains why so few homes in my city and many others can use clean natural gas.

I don't mind a rate increase if needed to help finance said installations. I don't mind the state finding financially workable ways to help utilities extend their services to wanting customers. I believe that over time the benefits of that kind of effort or increase will offset the burden. But to raise rates on the few gas customers that exist now, while gas utilities do nothing to invest in the expansion of their own customer base, seems abusive to me and well, it's not much of a business model.

Therefore, I oppose any gas rate increase not tied to the expanding customer base via utility financed installation of gas pipe infrastructure, accessible by new customers, be they residential or commercial.

Thank you.

Angelo Castillo, Commissioner  
City of Pembroke Pines

---

**From:** Shonna McCray <SMcCray@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** Castillo, Angelo

Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines

Commissioner Angelo Castillo  
Pembroke Pines City Commission  
mailto:acastillo@ppines.com

Dear Commissioner Castillo:

This is in response to your E-mail to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) regarding the extension of natural gas facilities to residents in Pembroke Pines.

If a resident wants natural gas service provided by an investor-owned natural gas utility that serves that community and that location has not had service before, the company must extend its facilities to get the customer service. It would be up to the customer requesting the natural gas service to pay the costs for extending the service to their home or business. Each investor-owned natural gas provider's tariff contains their specific criteria on how the cost is based. If you share the provider(s) of natural gas service in Pembroke Pines, we can share the relevant tariff(s) with you.

I have attached Rule 25-7.054, Florida Administrative Code, which outlines the requirements on extension of investor-owned natural gas facilities for your review.

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,

Shonna McCray  
Regulatory Program Administrator  
Florida Public Service Commission

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

From: Castillo, Angelo <mailto:acastillo@ppines.com>  
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:22 AM  
To: Records Clerk <mailto:CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Cc: Dodge, Charles <mailto:cdodge@ppines.com>; Samuel S. Goren <mailto:SGoren@gorencherof.com>  
Subject: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Dear Friends:

I write to you today in my individual capacity as a Pembroke Pines City Commissioner. Natural gas is a clean and underused alternative to electricity that way too many residents in my city cannot access. The reason is gas companies expect homeowner associations — no shortage of those in my home city — to fund the cost of bringing their pipes into housing developments so individual homes can connect.

Asking a homeowner to pay for their home connection from a gas pipe in front of their house is reasonable. Demanding that they upfront finance capital installation of any gas company's secondary infrastructure is unreasonable. And this explains why, in my city any towns statewide, despite having a gas line running down our main roads, virtually none of our many newer homes in Pembroke Pines are connected to natural gas.

Maybe increases in gas rates wouldn't be necessary if gas companies took steps to sell more of their product. Perhaps they should be incentivized to do just that. Perhaps you should say no to increases in order to get that possibility rolling. Let them sell more product. Perhaps any increase should be set aside for debt service installation of secondary infrastructure into housing developments. Perhaps this email will be ignored. But I will have done my job. I really hope you can find a way to help make this happen.

I wish for more homes in my city and statewide to be connected to clean, low cost natural gas. Will you help achieve that outcome? Thank you.

Angelo Castillo, Commissioner  
City of Pembroke Pines

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**From:** Shonna McCray  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 1:05 PM  
**To:** Ellen Plendl  
**Subject:** FW: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Ellen,

Please see below and handle accordingly.

Thanks

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**From:** Cindy Muir <CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** Rhonda Hicks <RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Cc:** Shonna McCray <SMcCray@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Bev DeMello <BDeMello@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Rhonda:

Please just have Ellen draft a response to this public official. She may need to call to find out who their gas company is.

I appreciate it,  
Cindy

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**From:** Cindy Muir <CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 11:34 AM  
**To:** Elisabeth Draper <EDraper@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Cc:** Tripp Coston <TCoston@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Rhonda Hicks <RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Bev DeMello <BDeMello@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Re: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Thanks for the info.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2020, at 11:04 AM, Elisabeth Draper <EDraper@psc.state.fl.us> wrote:



Cindy, I am not sure we got back to you with this. Rule 25-7.054 applies. Here the link [https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?title=GAS SERVICE BY GAS PUBLIC UTILITIES&ID=25-7.054](https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?title=GAS%20SERVICE%20BY%20GAS%20PUBLIC%20UTILITIES&ID=25-7.054)

I am not sure which utility serves the area, however, the tariffs would also have provisions that implement the rule. The tariffs can be found at <http://www.floridapsc.com/UtilityRateAndTariff/UtilityRatesAndTariff>

Elisabeth

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**From:** Judy Harlow  
**Sent:** Monday, September 21, 2020 9:56 AM  
**To:** Elisabeth Draper; Tripp Coston  
**Subject:** RE: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Could one of you please get with Cindy on this? We might need to help draft a response referring to the rule.

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**From:** Elisabeth Draper  
**Sent:** Monday, September 21, 2020 8:52 AM  
**To:** Tripp Coston; Judy Harlow  
**Subject:** FW: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Rule 25-7.054 applies. But it would be nice to see which utility serves that area and look what's in their tariffs, assuming it's an LDC. It could be Peoples Gas.

**From:** Judy Harlow  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2020 2:33 PM  
**To:** Elisabeth Draper; Tripp Coston  
**Cc:** Cindy Muir; Bev DeMello; Rhonda Hicks  
**Subject:** FW: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Elisabeth or Tripp,

Please see below and respond to Cindy's question on rules. We can then discuss whether there needs to be a response.

Thanks,

Judy

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**From:** Cindy Muir  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2020 11:35 AM  
**To:** Judy Harlow  
**Cc:** Rhonda Hicks; Bev DeMello  
**Subject:** Fwd: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Hi Judy:

Tom thought you might be able to assist? Let me know what you think.

Thanks,

Cindy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tom Ballinger <[TBallinger@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:TBallinger@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>  
**Date:** September 18, 2020 at 11:21:53 AM EDT  
**To:** Cindy Muir <[CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>  
**Cc:** Rhonda Hicks <[RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>, Bev DeMello <[BDeMello@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:BDeMello@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Natural Gas Rate Increases

This sounds like it may be a CIAC issue which is probably best answered from someone in Judy's shop?

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**From:** Cindy Muir <[CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:CMuir@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Tom Ballinger <[TBallinger@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:TBallinger@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>  
**Cc:** Rhonda Hicks <[RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:RHicks@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>; Bev DeMello

<BDeMello@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

**Subject:** FW: FW: Natural Gas Rate Increases

Hi Tom:

We received the below letter from a City Commissioner of Pembroke Pines. I'm not sure how to respond, if at all. Do we have rules addressing the cost and/or procedure for installing gas lines in new communities?

Thanks for your assistance,

Cindy

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

From: Castillo, Angelo <[acastillo@ppines.com](mailto:acastillo@ppines.com)>

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:22 AM

To: Records Clerk <[CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US](mailto:CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US)>

Cc: Dodge, Charles <[cdodge@ppines.com](mailto:cdodge@ppines.com)>; Samuel S. Goren

<[SGoren@gorencherof.com](mailto:SGoren@gorencherof.com)>

Subject: Natural Gas Rate Increases

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## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Shonna McCray  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 2:08 PM  
**To:** 'acastillo@ppines.com'  
**Subject:** Consumer Inquiry - Extension of Natural Gas Facilities in Pembroke Pines  
**Attachments:** 25-7.054.doc

Commissioner Angelo Castillo  
Pembroke Pines City Commission  
mailto:acastillo@ppines.com

Dear Commissioner Castillo:

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Sincerely,

Shonna McCray  
Regulatory Program Administrator  
Florida Public Service Commission

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Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:22 AM  
To: Records Clerk <mailto:CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
Cc: Dodge, Charles <mailto:cdodge@ppines.com>; Samuel S. Goren <mailto:SGoren@gorencherof.com>  
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