

Antonia Hover

From: Ellen Plendl
Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2022 4:29 PM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20220001
Attachments: Consumer Inquiry - Tampa Electric Company; FW Teco rate increase

See attached customer correspondence and reply for Docket No. 20220001.

Antonia Hover

From: Shonna McCray
Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2022 4:28 PM
To: 'karjsixty@gmail.com'
Cc: Ellen Plendl
Subject: Consumer Inquiry - Tampa Electric Company

Ms. Kandi Wenzel
karjsixty@gmail.com

RE: FPSC Inquiry 1403398C

Dear Ms. Wenzel:

The Governor's office forwarded a copy of your email regarding Tampa Electric Company (TECO) to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC). The FPSC regulates investor-owned electric, and natural gas utilities throughout the state, and investor-owned water and wastewater utilities in those counties which have opted to transfer jurisdiction to the FPSC. The FPSC has authority in the telephone industry which is limited to the Lifeline Assistance Program, Florida Relay Service, and pay telephone service. We appreciate the opportunity to respond directly to you.

You expressed concern about a recent rate increase. The fuel adjustment charge recovers the actual expenses associated with securing and processing fuel necessary to run the power plants used to generate electricity. Fuel rates mirror rising and falling fuel costs as reflected in the international marketplace. The revenue generated by the fuel adjustment charge does not add to the profit of the utility companies, but goes to pay fuel suppliers and transporters. The cost of fuel is shown as a separate cents per kilowatt-hour charge, and fuel costs are not contained in any other charge on a customer's bill.

Each year, utilities file their projected fuel expenses for the upcoming calendar year. The FPSC, along with the Office of Public Counsel and other consumer representatives closely examine the fuel costs requested by the utilities. Public hearings are held annually to set the fuel factors for the next year. Since rates are set on projected costs, at the end of the year, the costs are "trued-up" or compared to the audited actual expenses incurred by the utility. If the utility recovered more than its actual costs, the amount of over-recovery is used to reduce the next year's costs. If the utility under-recovered (costs were higher than expected) that deficit is likewise rolled into the next year. The fuel cost adjustment is recognized by virtually all state commissions, by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and is also used by most municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives.

Fuel costs for TECO were set by the FPSC during the November 2021 cost recovery clause hearing. By Florida Statute and established Commission policy, electric utilities may recover certain expenses from customers through cost recovery charges adjusted annually by the FPSC. Cost recovery is allowed on fuel and purchased power, capacity, conservation, and environmental requirements. Utilities may not, however, earn a profit on fuel charges.

The FPSC has approved mid-year corrections to utilities' fuel charges in the past, including both increases and decreases to the fuel charges. Such approvals have been based on significant differences between actual and projected costs and other factors. When costs increase significantly during the months after rates are set, mid-course corrections can serve to maintain more stable rates from year-to-year and prevent customers from having to pay interest on under-recovered costs. In February 2022, TECO proposed an increase in its fuel charges.

On March 1, 2022, the FPSC approved TECO's mid-course correction for the fuel adjustment charges to recover higher than expected costs of fuel for power plants. The mid-course correction took effect for TECO bills dated on or after April

1, 2022. Residential customer bills which reflect 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity a month increased from \$120.91 to \$131.87.

Between November 1, and November 3, 2022, the FPSC will conduct the next hearings to determine the 2023 fuel adjustment charges. You may watch the hearings live or afterwards by using the following link:

<http://www.floridapsc.com/agendas/audiovideo/index.aspx>

Thank you for sharing your views. We will add your comments to the correspondence side of Docket No. 20220001-EI regarding the fuel cost adjustment.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact 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

Antonia Hover

From: Governor's Office of Citizen Services <EOGCitizenServices@eog.myflorida.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2022 2:45 PM
To: EOG-Referral
Subject: FW: Teco rate increase

Please find attached email received by the Governor's Office of Citizen Services. This email is forwarded to your office for review and any response or action appropriate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martha Lynn
Office of Citizen Services
Executive Office of the Governor

From: kandi wenzel <karjsixty@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 5:01 PM
To: GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com
Subject: Teco rate increase

Thank you for what you do! Rate increase is just going to high for electricity all the changes that's spent on going green and our electric bill keeps going up.we need help
God bless you.

Please note that under Florida law correspondence sent to the Governor's Office, which is not confidential or exempt pursuant to chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, is a public record made available upon request.