## **Collin Roehner**

From: Janet Brunson

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 2:25 PM

To: 'Gaye Nicholson'

**Cc:** Consumer Correspondence

**Subject:** Docket No. 160186-EI - Gulf Power Company Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Nicholson:

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, <u>www.FloridaPSC.com</u>. 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: Gaye Nicholson [mailto:lionandcrown@mac.com]

Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 5:24 PM

To: Consumer Contact

Subject: Gulf Power proposed rate hike

## Dear Sirs,

I am a retired antique business owner. Antiques are no longer in style so I have not had a sale in a year. Living on my \$936 Social Security is UNDER the Poverty Level---Social Security has NOT increased in 2 years & has not kept up with the cost of living index--How am I supposed to pay an increase??? With medical bills & basic living expenses I can hardly make it now so to expect that the Human Survival Utility of Electricity can increase my bill is impossible for me!! it is

Unfair, public utilities should Never have been handed over to greedy corporations!!they should always remain in the hands of government!

Please do Not approval there request until you can increase my Social Security income by that much! Thank you! gay nicholson