

Antonia Hover

From: John Plescow
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:36 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence; Diane Hood
Subject: FW: To CLK Docket 20230001

Please, add to docket 20230001.

From: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 4:44 PM
To: John Plescow <JPlescow@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: To CLK Docket 20230001

From: Sharon Vehrs <sharonvehrs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 10:23 AM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Electric Billing Increase

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing for the Commission to please refuse Duke Energy's request to, AGAIN, increase their customer service fees. New rates just went into effect January 1, 2023!!! While 20% may not sound like much, it is compounded by the increase in the cost for food, fuel, insurance, and just general living expenses. It is difficult for those of us living on fixed incomes to keep meeting these increases without any increase in our incomes. Why is Duke Energy requesting twice the percentage amount compared to the two other companies? Hurricanes? To my knowledge, Duke Energy's coverage area was not hit by the last hurricanes.

Duke Energy posted a gross profit of \$18.137 Billion dollars for 2021. That was a 4.49% increase in profits from 2020. In 2020, their annual gross profit was \$17.375 Billion, a 1.53% decline from 2019. However, in 2019 they posted gross profits of \$17.626 Billion, an increase of 3.73% from 2018. Duke Energy's revenue has consistently gone up over the past three years. As of their third quarter ending in September of 2022, their records show a revenue of \$7.968 Billion dollars, and a 14.63% increase year-over-year.

I feel that it is time for Duke Energy to invest some of their profits into improving their company without asking the consumers to, once AGAIN, absorb the costs. Consumers are tired of being tied to ONE company due to the area in which they live. This definitely creates a monopoly on electrical service. We are at their mercy for what we pay, unless YOU stand up for the consumers.

Please decline Duke Energy's request to increase the cost of a basic necessity that will put fixed income customers in the position of choosing between food and medications or being able to be cool during hot temperatures.

I appreciate your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Sharon Vehrs
Palm Harbor, FL