

120298 citizen comment
8/16/12

- 16th My name is Debbie Martinez
- Today, I would Urge you to Second a Motion to REFUND the GRU overcharges.
- Over the past 2 years, GRU has been Significantly overcharging GRU customers for fuel cost in Excess of the actual fuel prices. This is customer money, Not GRU money, and should have been used to further reduce our fuel Adjustment charge each year. GRU never told us about this until they recently got Caught and were forced to come clean. Some people would call this Fraud. They have been Hording customer money to Hide the true rate impact of the biomass contract.
- You assured GRU customers that They would Not pay One Cent in ADVANCE until the 1st Killowatt of electricity Begins to FLOW from the GREC plant.
- Every Electric utility in the State of Fla. except GRU has been lowering their bills and passing Substantial monthly fuel Savings directly onto their customers.

2

- You should Demand GRU immediately refund the \$15 million in overcharges.
- Now I will share a few Words from Dr. Thomas K. Young and Ron Cunningham.
- Monday, Aug. 13, 2012 - in the G'ville Sun an excellent article written by a Physician, Dr. Thomas K. Young, at the Univ. of Fla. Shands Hospital, entitled: The Biomass MESS Continues
- His Words "Pegeen Hanrahan (the Godmother of the biomass plant) testifying in support of GREC, before the Public Service Commission, Hanrahan stated, "We are Keenly aware of our fundamental commitment to provide Reliable electric service at a Reasonable cost".
- Dr. Young continues saying, NOW, The GRU ratepayers are set to endure the consequences of the "Worst case scenario" for GREC, a scenario discussed at length at the Public Service

(3)

- Commission. GRU plans to mitigate the Damage with a Costly Bond Refinancing, that Will Saddle future budgets with Increased costs.
- Obligating the ratepayers of the public utility, to purchase for 30 years, ALL of the power produced by a Novel, Expensive and Unnecessary biomass plant in the middle of a historic "natural gas boom" was UNCONSCIONABLE. Those are Dr. Young's words.
- NEXT – Ron Cunningham's Editorial: Entitled - The Bandwagon (July 20, 2012)
- Alachua County commissioners Have the same Right as all GRU ratepayers to question the city-owned utility's rate structure.
- And if County Commissioners believe GRU is illegally gouging its customers, they certainly have the right to call for a State Investigation.
- ~~FINAL~~ ^{Another} Cunningham Editorial: Entitled-- Unfair to Ratepayers (yesterday Aug. 15, 2012) Is it fair to

4

- ratepayers[?], a substantial number of whom live Outside the city limits and therefore have No ability to elect city commissioners who have the power to set rates?
- The average transfer of municipal-owned electric utility profits Nationally is just 5.2%. GRU transfers nearly 10%.
- The GRU transfer has been creeping steadily Upward for years. At what point does GRU's budget become a SLUSH Fund for general government?
- ALL THEIR WORDS !!!!
AGAIN
- Therefore I Urge you to Second a motion to Refund the GRU overcharges.
- Thank you.