

Review of Electric Utility Hurricane Preparedness and Restoration Actions

Docket No : 20170215-EU

Name : Will Miller

Electric Utility Provider : EI801 - Duke Energy

Zip Code : 33770

Category : Power restoration time

Comments : During the most recent hurricane to brush my small city of Belleair Bluffs, FL (near Clearwater/Largo), I found myself without power for six (6) days. My wife was very ill and she and I both needed various electric-powered medical equipment, and refrigerated medicine. The stress of relocating her to my daughter's home in Tampa (which had not lost power) was significant. I have solar photovoltaic power, but no battery backup, so basically I had "solar decorations" on my roof when the power grid failed.

When I moved to the Sunshine State from VA, 23 years ago, I was appalled that FL is in the lowest quartile among states to support solar power. When will the state wake up, promote solar power, and help protect it's citizens from power failures that are sure to come with increasingly frequent catastrophic weather? We can't continue fossil-fuel dependent power! Backward! Regressive!