

Jacob Veaughn

From: Jacob Veaughn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:46 AM
To: 'Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Public Comment,Orange County FL, for Docket No. 20200181 (Proposed amendment of Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., Goals for Electric Utilities)

Good Morning, Jeff Benavides

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200181 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Jacob Veaughn

Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Jacob.Veaughn@psc.state.fl.us
850.413.6656

From: Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net <Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:11 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Public Comment,Orange County FL, for Docket No. 20200181 (Proposed amendment of Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., Goals for Electric Utilities)

Good Afternoon Chairman and Commissioners:

Please place the attached letter in Docket No. 20200181 on behalf of Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings

Thank you in advance for confirming receipt of this email and the attachment.

Jeff Benavides, LEED AP O+M, GGP, ISSP-SPC, NABCEP-PVA
Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer
County Administrator's Office
Orange County Government
201 S. Rosalind Avenue, 5th Floor
Orlando, Florida 32801
Desk: (407) 836-7389 | Cell: (407) 491-9211 | Email: Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net



PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law (F. S. 119). All e-mails to and from County Officials are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time.



ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR

Jerry L. Demings

P.O. BOX 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • EMAIL: MAYOR@OCFL.NET

March 29, 2021

Chairman Gary F. Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Docket No. 20200181- Proposed Amendment of Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., Goals for Electric Utilities

Dear Chairman Clark:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Public Service Commission's (PSC) upcoming Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA) review. I appreciate your consideration of Orange County's requests submitted by County Administrator Byron Brooks during the February 15 Public Comment for Docket No. 20200181 (Proposed Amendment of Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., Goals for Electric Utilities).

As co-chair of the Florida Association of Counties' Urban Caucus, energy efficiency was identified as a legislative priority for 2021. Our caucus requests that the PSC reform its rules to reflect best practices on setting efficiency goals adopted in other states. Together, these actions will ensure Florida remains sustainable, affordable, and resilient for its residents, businesses, and visitors. Offering programs to address the needs of our most vulnerable and low-income families is vitally important considering the impact of the pandemic.

Orange County is ready and able to play a key role in planning and developing initiatives to ensure that our sustainability and resilience goals and plans align with the statewide energy goals. I appreciate your consideration of my comments. If you have any questions, please contact Orange County Government Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer, Jeff Benavides, at 407-836-7389 or e-mail: jeff.benavides@ocfl.net for any future correspondence.

Sincerely,

Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

Attachment: Docket No. 20200181-Orange County, FL.pdf

c: Orange County Board of County Commissioners
Byron W. Brooks, County Administrator
Jeffrey Newton, County Attorney
Jeff Benavides, Chief Sustainability & Resilience Officer



February 11, 2021

Chairman Gary F. Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Docket No. 20200181, Proposed amendment of Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., Goals for Electric Utilities

Dear Chairman Clark:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Public Service Commission's (PSC) upcoming Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA) review. Orange County respectfully requests that the PSC enhance efforts by utility providers throughout the State of Florida to increase their energy efficiency goals, programs, and policies.

The FEECA review presents an opportunity for updating outdated economic screening practices used to establish energy conservation goals at a time when these needs are most critical. Energy efficiency programs help reduce the energy burden of our most vulnerable low-income residents. Given the continuing economic challenges resulting from the pandemic, programs that help consumers reduce energy waste and save money on their power bills are more important than ever. The PSC can strengthen and update its energy efficiency policies and programs by doing the following:

- Equally account for energy efficiency with other utility resources by primarily using the total resource cost test (TRC) to evaluate the costs and benefits of energy efficiency in setting goals. Other states utilize the participant cost test (PCT) and the rate impact measurement (RIM) to determine specific program design, administrative costs, and other considerations;
- Energy efficiency investments should be held to similar screening standards as other investments such as power plants, transmission lines, and substations. The two-year payback screen should be benchmarked and evaluated against other state standards.
- Create a low-income customer advisory board or other public consumer feedback tool to guide the PSC and Florida's utilities in the design and implementation of inclusive and low-income policies and programs;
- Adopt policies to support new and expanded energy-saving programs for low-income Floridians. Identify an annual budget minimum threshold allocated for low-income programs and include a methodology to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of these programs and the health and safety benefits. These programs should be inclusive of single-family, multi-family, and income qualifying commercial properties;

Byron W. Brooks, A.I.C.P., *County Administrator*
201 South Rosalind Avenue • Reply To: Post Office Box 1303 • Orlando, Florida 32802-1303
Telephone: 407-836-7370 • Fax: 407-836-7399
Byron.Brooks@ocfl.net

- Adopt policies to support a variety of new financial tools that offer flexibility of payments such as prepaid programs, flexible pay, and on-bill financing;
- Conduct a second workshop, focused on analyzing the draft rule and addressing the systematic goal of meaningful statewide energy efficiency.

In 2007, Orange County adopted its first Climate Protection Campaign which outlined strategies to support energy conservation and the growth of renewable energy in our region. This year, Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings unveiled the Sustainable Operations and Resilience Action Plan. We are committed to building a community of tomorrow that prioritizes clean energy and energy efficiency for all residents and businesses. The Action Plan includes a roadmap to reduce 30% of building and infrastructure energy use by 2025 and a plan to achieve 100% of County operations electricity load from clean, renewable sources by 2035.

Mayor Demings serves as the co-chair of the Florida Association of Counties' Urban Caucus along with Pinellas County Commissioner Janet Long. This caucus recently identified Energy Efficiency as a legislative priority for 2021, requesting that the PSC "reform its rules to reflect best practices in other states on setting efficiency goals". Together, these actions will ensure Florida remains sustainable and resilient for its residents, businesses and visitors. Orange County is ready and able to play a key role in planning and development efforts to ensure that our Sustainability & Resilience goals and future plans are in alignment with the state-wide energy goals.

For any future correspondence, please contact Orange County Government Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer, Jeff Benavides, at 407-836-7389 or e-mail: jeff.benavides@ocfl.net.

Sincerely,



Byron W. Brooks, AICP
County Administrator

BWB/jb

c: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
Commissioner Nicole H. Wilson, District 1
Commissioner Christine Moore, District 2
Commissioner Mayra Uribe, District 3
Commissioner Maribel Gomez Cordero, District 4
Commissioner Emily Bonilla, District 5
Commissioner Victoria P. Siplin, District 6
Jeffrey Newton, County Attorney
Roseann Harrington, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Jeff Benavides, Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer
Kelley Teague, Director, Legislative Affairs