

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 1:28 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Please work to have our utilities reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached email in Docket No. 20230001.

Hannah E. Branum

Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
[2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.](#)
[Tallahassee, FL 32399](#)

(850) 413-6004



From: John Burns <jburns92@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 12:27 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Please work to have our utilities reduce greenhouse gas emissions

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Dear Commissioner Clark,

I am writing today to ask for your support as a Florida PSC Commissioner in working with our Florida utility companies to significantly increase their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As I'm sure you agree, this is both good business and good environmental behavior. Moreover, given your background in public service overseeing our parks and trails, I know that you have a unique appreciation for the natural beauty we are blessed with and the existential threat that climate change poses to these beautiful natural resources. While I appreciate the PSC's encouragement of consumer actions that can help in reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the reality as you are aware is that we require our public utilities to be much more aggressive in their actions if we are to "move the needle". We both know that for Florida, more so than any other state, climate change is a "NOW" issue with rising sea level, more frequent storm activity, and worsening storm intensity.

As a consumer and homeowner, I opted to install solar panels on our home here in Orlando almost four years ago. My subjective experience at that time working with my utility, Duke, was that they talked a good game relative to solar but the reality was and is that their primary focus in this space is in their use of solar. It took the better part of six months to activate my solar system once the panels were installed. While I fully acknowledge that responsibility for this delay was shared between Duke and my installer, as a consumer, I expected then and I expect now for my **public** utility to be better than their behavior demonstrated.

I realize that my experience does not tell a complete or, perhaps, accurate, accounting of my utility. That said, it does reflect the impact I can have--not much. Here is where I rely on you and the other PSC Commissioners to exert your influence and leadership in concert with our utilities.

For example, I believe that the governor has opted out of a couple of federal programs from the Inflation Reduction Act that would have added additional funds to green energy upgrades for local governments and extended rebates to local consumers (helping low SES recipients with 100% rebates transitioning from gas to electric stoves). While I do not expect the PSC and the utilities it regulates to get involved in the "politics of the thing", surely there is a policy perspective both can advance that would encourage our elected leaders to be more receptive to such measures.

I would ask that the PSC work in concert with our utilities to help our elected representatives take advantage of opportunities such as those I've touched on above. I'd also ask that the PSC take concrete steps to have our public utilities move more rapidly on green initiatives and to be far more supportive of the customer base that they are here to serve.

Thank you for your consideration. V/r--John

John J. Burns
7195 Lake Carlisle Blvd
Orlando, FL 32829

Cell: (321) 946-5593