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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20240025-EI

Petition for rate increase
by Duke Energy Florida.

_____ /

PROCEEDINGS: SERVICE HEARING

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: Tuesday, June 18, 2024

TIME: Commenced: 6:00 p.m.
Concluded: 6:45 p.m.

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 APPEARANCES:

2 DIANNE TRIPLETT, ESQUIRE, 299 First Avenue
3 North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701; appearing on
4 behalf of Duke Energy Florida (Duke).

5 WALT TRIERWEILER, PUBLIC COUNSEL, AUSTIN
6 WATROUS, ESQUIRE, OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL, c/o The
7 Florida Legislature, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812,
8 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, appearing on behalf of
9 the Citizens of the State of Florida (OPC.).

10 BRADLEY MARSHALL and JORDAN LEUBKEMANN,
11 ESQUIRES, Earthjustice, 111 S. Martin Luther King Jr.
12 Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32301; and HEMA LOCHAN,
13 ESQUIRE, Earthjustice, 48 Wall Street, 15th Floor, New
14 York, New York 10005; appearing on behalf of Florida
15 Rising (Florida Rising) and League of United Latin
16 American Citizens of Florida (LULAC).

17 SARI AMIEL, ESQUIRE, 50 F St. NW, Eighth
18 Floor, Washington, DC 20001; appearing on behalf of
19 Sierra Club (Sierra Club).

20 SHAW STILLER and MAJOR THOMPSON, ESQUIRES,
21 FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak
22 Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing on
23 behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission (Staff).

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1 APPEARANCES CONTINUED:

2 KEITH HETRICK, GENERAL COUNSEL; MARY ANNE
3 HELTON, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL, Florida Public Service
4 Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee,
5 Florida 32399-0850, Advisor to the Florida Public
6 Service Commission.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Good evening, everybody,
3 and welcome to this customer service hearing. This
4 is part of our review of the Duke Energy Florida
5 request for a rate adjustment. Today's service
6 hearing is an important part of the process and is
7 dedicated to hearing from you, the customers.

8 We have employed a Spanish interpreter for
9 this meeting, Jackie Guldris. She will be
10 interpreting this introduction, opening statements
11 and important instructions. She will also aid to
12 any customer comments who wish to speak in Spanish
13 that may be on the line or here in person, which I
14 don't see any.

15 Before I introduce our Commissioners, let's
16 allow Jackie a quick second for translation.

17 MS. GULDRIS: Good afternoon to everyone as
18 well.

19 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

20 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you, Jackie.

21 If I didn't mention before, I am La Rosa, the
22 Commission -- the Chairman of the Florida Public
23 Service Commission. With me are my fellow
24 Commissioners, which I will allow a few seconds
25 here to introduce themselves.

1 On the line with us is Commissioner Graham.

2 Commissioner Graham, can you hear us?

3 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

4 Can you hear me?

5 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Hear you loud and clear. I
6 will recognize you for an introduction.

7 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Good evening, everybody.
8 Welcome to the service hearing for Duke Florida.

9 We are here to hear you from the customers.
10 We want to hear your thoughts of Duke, the service
11 they are providing for you. We want to hear the
12 good. We want to hear the bad, and we want to hear
13 all the details. We are here for your testimony,
14 because this is all seriously the biggest part of
15 the rate case.

16 Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER CLARK: My name is Gary Clark,
18 also one of your five Commissioners. And I would
19 just like to take this opportunity to thank you all
20 for taking time out of your busy schedules. I know
21 many folks are just now getting home from work and
22 beginning those routine afternoon activities, so I
23 thank you for taking time out to share your
24 concerns and your thoughts with us this evening.

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 COMMISSIONER FAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Just real brief, I want to thank the
3 customers, like my colleagues mentioned. And this
4 is an important part of the process, so thank you
5 again for your time.

6 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Thank you.

7 My name is --

8 MS. GULDRIS: Gabriella, I'm sorry.

9 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: It's okay. I didn't
10 know you were translating our introduction.

11 I just wanted to take a brief moment. My name
12 is Gabriella Passidomo. I am the -- another one of
13 the Public Service Commissioners.

14 I just want to take one moment -- I really
15 appreciate all of those who have just taken to the
16 opportunity to call us and voice their thoughts on
17 this matter.

18 And just to reiterate, I think I have said it
19 at every single meeting, and I will continue to say
20 it, that this is not -- this might be our last
21 customer service hearing, but we still will be
22 accepting any comments that you may have regarding
23 this docket up through the technical hearing and
24 our decision. So feel free to submit comments to
25 us whenever is most convenient for you. We review

1 those just as equally as if you were to call in
2 today.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: And, Jackie, we don't need
5 to translate those segments. We will just kind of
6 go through instructions and opening statements.

7 So I will go ahead and recognize --

8 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

9 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: So I will go ahead and
10 recognize staff. Will you please read the notice?

11 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Chairman.

12 By notice issued on May 4th, 2024, this time
13 and place has been set for a customer service
14 hearing in Docket No. 20240025-EI. The purpose of
15 the service hearing is set forth more fully in the
16 notice.

17 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you.

18 Let's move to appearances, and let's start
19 with Duke.

20 MS. TRIPLETT: Good evening. Dianne Triplett
21 on behalf of Duke Energy Florida.

22 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Office of Public Counsel.

23 MR. WATROUS: Austin Watrous and Public
24 Counsel, Walt Trierweiler, on behalf of the Office
25 of Public Counsel.

1 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: I thought you guys were
2 going to argue on which one was going to speak.

3 Florida Rising League of United Latin American
4 Citizens of Florida.

5 MR. LUEBKEMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
6 Jordan Luebkekmann, Bradley Marshall and Hema Lochan
7 on behalf of Florida LULAC and Florida Rising.

8 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you.

9 I believe we have the Sierra Club on the line,
10 is that accurate?

11 MS. AMIEL: Yes, thank you. This is Sari
12 Amiel on behalf of the Sierra Club.

13 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you.

14 Staff.

15 MR. THOMPSON: This is Major Thompson and Shaw
16 Stiller on behalf of Florida Public Service
17 Commission staff. I would also like to enter an
18 appearance on behalf of Mary Anne Helton as your
19 Advisor, and Keith Hetrick as your General Counsel.

20 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Excellent. Thank you,
21 counsel.

22 Let me begin by thanking each of you, as my
23 fellow Commissioners have, by taking the time out
24 of your day to give us truly what you believe is a
25 quality of service that Duke may be providing for

1 you.

2 In August, we will have our technical hearing.
3 It's where our commission will ultimately make our
4 decision and, of course, hear from witnesses and
5 testimony. I encourage you all to watch the
6 hearing on our website, as it may help you better
7 understand the process and, ultimately, the
8 decisions that we will be making in the case.

9 In addition to sharing your comments here,
10 you may also provide your comments through
11 additional materials through mail or via email.
12 Via email at clerk@psc.state.fl.us. Please be sure
13 to include the docket number in the subject line.
14 The docket number is 20240025-EI. On our website,
15 you will find a pre-addressed letter, an envelope,
16 that you can download there.

17 If you have specific service or billing
18 issues, Ms. Carol Cornell, Director of Customer
19 Experience from Duke, is here, along with our staff
20 to assist you if that is needed. And if you need
21 to speak with Commission staff, Cissy Galloway from
22 our Economics division is here today, along with
23 other technical staff and legal staff.

24 So let's go ahead and move to opening
25 statements, if we can. I know that we do have --

1 Jackie does have the translations there for each of
2 your opening statements, so let's try to keep the
3 opening statements to three minutes, and let's
4 start with Duke.

5 MS. TRIPLETT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Hello. My name is Dianne Triplett, and I
7 represent Duke Energy Florida.

8 Our filing is more fully explained in the
9 on-line synopsis, but in summary, we filed a rate
10 adjustment to make investments for the benefit of
11 our customers. We are pleased to hear from some of
12 those customers today.

13 With me is Carol Cornell, our Director of
14 Consumer Affairs. If you can not meet with our
15 representatives today, please email consumer
16 affairs, the number two, at Duke dash energy dot
17 com.

18 Thank you.

19 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

20 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: OPC.

21 MR. WATROUS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 My name is Austin Watrous, and I am an
23 attorney with the Office of Public Counsel. For
24 those of you who are not familiar with our office,
25 the Office of Public Counsel was created by the

1 Florida Legislature, and responsible for
2 representing the customers of Duke Energy Florida
3 in matters before the Florida Public Service
4 Commission.

5 We are here today because Duke Energy has
6 filed a request for a variety of changes to their
7 current rates. The Office of Public Counsel has
8 hired expert witnesses to address multiple aspects
9 of Duke's requested rate increase. We have engaged
10 in extensive discovery, and we have deposed many of
11 the utility's witnesses in order to identify cost
12 savings for our customers. We will continue
13 deposing witnesses, conducting discovery and
14 preparing for trial right up to date of the
15 hearing.

16 The utility's original proposal would result
17 in base rate increases every year for the years
18 2025, 2026 and 2027. If the proposal is accepted,
19 on January 1st of 2025, Duke's base rates would be
20 increased by \$593 million, 98 million more on
21 January 1st of 2026, and then another 129 million
22 on January 1st of 2027. OPC has challenged the
23 legality and lack of supporting evidence for these
24 increases.

25 Duke has made projections several years in the

1 future, and presented those projections to the
2 Commission for the purpose of setting rates in 2026
3 and 2027. OPC has challenged the reliability and
4 speculative nature of the rate increases requested
5 for these future distant periods.

6 Duke is entitled to a reasonable return on
7 equity. However, the utility has requested an
8 excessive return of equity of 11.15 percent. Our
9 research indicates that Duke only requires a return
10 on equity of just under nine-and-a-half percent,
11 which is consistent with the current market for
12 electric utility operations, and is more than
13 adequate for Duke to maintain its financial
14 integrity and credit worthiness.

15 There are more issues that we are challenging
16 in this rate case to reach the best result possible
17 for our customers. It is important to keep in mind
18 that the law places the burden on Duke to provide
19 the evidence to support a finding that every
20 requested dollar is both reasonable and prudent.
21 The job of your Public Counsel is to challenge all
22 of those areas that don't satisfy that burden of
23 proof.

24 Remember that today is your hearing. This is
25 not the Commission's hearing, and it is not my

1 hearing, and it's not Duke's hearing. This is your
2 customer hearing, and your sworn testimony is
3 evidence, not idle commentary. Please take
4 advantage of this opportunity and please use your
5 voice to participate. We look forward to hearing
6 from you.

7 Thank you.

8 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

9 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Florida Rising, LULAC.

10 MR. LUEBKEMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Jordan Luebkekmann on behalf of Florida Rising and
12 LULAC.

13 Duke had the fifth highest residential
14 electricity bills in the nation last year out of
15 149 utilities, with more than 100,000 residential
16 customers. Yet Duke is asking the Public Service
17 Commission to raise rates even higher. Duke's
18 proposal includes a minimum bill, a substantial
19 rate increase, and a big hike in the return on
20 equity, essentially guaranteed profits, which would
21 be applied to a wave of construction projects that
22 Duke hasn't shown are needed. All told, if
23 authorized by the Commission, over the next three
24 years, Duke will charge customers over \$2 billion
25 more than you are already paying.

1 Florida Rising and LULAC, as associations of
2 residential customers, are in this case to push
3 back against this excessive increase. The \$30
4 minimum bill in Duke's petition functions like a
5 high fixed charge. In practice, it means that no
6 matter how much electricity you may save, your bill
7 will never be less than \$30. The mechanism
8 punishing low energy users like those who have
9 invested in energy efficiency, or who leave the
10 thermostat higher than comfortable in order to save
11 on their bills. It's also regressive, as it
12 primarily impacts low and fixed income households
13 who can least manage the additional costs.

14 Duke argues the high charge is necessary
15 because the utility has many fixed costs, but other
16 high fixed costs businesses don't impose fixed
17 charges at all. When is the last time you paid a
18 monthly subscription to an airline or shopping
19 mall? Duke's documents show that the true and
20 fixed fair -- true and fair fixed charge should be
21 \$14 or less each month.

22 Then there is the excessive return on equity,
23 or ROE, that Duke is seeking. ROE refers to how
24 much profit Duke is allowed to charge customers for
25 each dollar of shareholder money spent on new grid

1 infrastructure. The real cost of these projects
2 doesn't change with Duke's ROEs -- with Duke's ROE.
3 You just get the privilege of paying extra for the
4 same stuff if Duke is granted a higher ROE. In
5 this case, Duke's request of an 11.15 percent
6 midpoint and 12.15 percent maximum stick out
7 against a decade's long trend of lower ROEs.

8 An ROE exists to ensure that a data makes just
9 enough profit to attract investors and fund future
10 profits. The reason that ROEs have been going down
11 is that utility commissions all across the country
12 recognize there is just not that much risk
13 investing in a monopoly utility with guaranteed
14 profits and no competition.

15 Another major driver of Duke's requested rate
16 hike is a \$3.3 billion spending spree on new
17 transmission, distribution and generating system
18 projects. While some of this spending may well be
19 reasonable, the fact is that Duke hasn't
20 demonstrated the actual need for many of these
21 projects, and hasn't performed a transparent
22 comprehensive benefit cost analysis for virtually
23 any of them. This is no way to let a utility spend
24 your money.

25 The Commission should deny all new projects

1 unless and until Duke shows that each is necessary
2 to serve the system, and that Duke will accomplish
3 each in a cost-effective way that minimizes
4 customer expense instead of maximizing Duke's
5 profits.

6 Thank you.

7 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

8 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Sierra Club. Sierra Club,
9 are you on the line? You are recognized when you
10 are ready.

11 MS. AMIEL: Yes. Thank you.

12 Good evening. I am Sari Amiel, appearing on
13 behalf of Sierra Club, an intervenor in this rate
14 case.

15 Sierra Club's main concern is Duke's continued
16 reliance on the uneconomic coal-fired Crystal River
17 Units 4 and 5, which impose higher costs on
18 ratepayers. Crystal River's operating and
19 maintenance costs and fuel costs exceed its
20 benefits to ratepayers. Analysis by Sierra Club's
21 expert witness shows that retiring Crystal River 4
22 and 5 in 2030, instead of in 2034 as planned, could
23 save customers at least \$165 million without
24 including additional environmental compliance
25 costs. Yet Duke has not conducted an up-to-date

1 study of retiring Crystal River before 2034.
2 Instead, Duke is relying on an outdated 2020 study.

3 Since that 2020 study was performed, there
4 have been key market and regulatory changes,
5 including new incentives for clean energy resources
6 made available under the Inflation Reduction Act,
7 volatility in fossil fuel markets and new EPA
8 regulations impacting coal-fired power plants.

9 Sierra Club welcomes Duke's proposed additions
10 of solar capacity, which is a less costly and
11 environmentally cleaner source of energy. Yet Duke
12 seems to be underestimating the value that solar
13 energy provides at the time of peak demand, so it
14 should perform a study of the winter firm capacity
15 contribution of solar. When paired with storage,
16 solar energy is especially adept at ramping up to
17 meet peak demand. EPA's new greenhouse gas
18 emission standards will further increase the costs
19 to operate Crystal River 4 and 5 on coal.

20 Florida is extremely vulnerable to sea level
21 rise, more intense storms and more impacts of
22 climate change, which is why it's especially
23 important for Duke to retire these coal units
24 earlier. Retiring Crystal River 4 and 5 by 2030
25 and replacing it with solar energy and capacity

1 contracts would reduce system costs and reduce the
2 risk of fuel prices and environmental regulation.

3 So to ensure just and reasonable rates for
4 Duke customers, we ask that this commission require
5 Duke to retire all coal burning equipment at
6 Crystal River 4 and 5 as soon as possible, but by
7 2030 they latest.

8 The Commission should ensure the ongoing
9 operation and maintenance spending at these coal
10 plants is ramping down and order to Duke to
11 evaluate how much money it could save for customers
12 before an earlier retirement date.

13 Thank you for providing Sierra Club with the
14 opportunity to make this statements.

15 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

16 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: All right. Let's move on
17 to the customer testimony section of tonight's
18 meeting. Let's get started with well with the
19 customer service side of it.

20 This meeting is going to be transcribed and
21 will become part of the official record. For those
22 of you who have preregistered to speak were given
23 the option to check off an affirmation of your
24 testimony today. If you have not previously
25 provided this affirmation, I will need to swear you

1 in over the phone before you share your comments.
2 Looking at the record, I think only one person has
3 not been sworn in, and I will just jump in when
4 that person comes up to speak.

5 Please note that your comments will also be
6 subject to cross-examination, meaning that you may
7 be asked questions either by one of the
8 Commissioners or one of the parties that are here
9 today. That's not intended by any means to
10 intimidate you, but just to make sure that we
11 understand and the record is clear -- or that your
12 comments are clear on the record.

13 To make sure that all of our neighbors here
14 have the opportunity to speak, I am going to limit
15 most comments to five minutes. I will certainly
16 try not to interrupt you if you are in the middle
17 of a thought or trying to conclude.

18 With us today is the Public Counsel, Mr. Walt
19 Trierweiler. He is your voice in this process, and
20 he will be helping us today as we get started.
21 When it's your turn to speak, he will call your
22 name, him or Mr. Watrous, in the order in which you
23 have signed up. He will also call three names out
24 loud, so that if you are in the hopper, you know
25 that you may be asked to speak a very shortly so

1 that we can move along through the names as
2 exponentially as possible.

3 I will give Jackie a second to interpret that,
4 those instructions.

5 MS. GULDRIS: All righty.

6 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

7 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you, Jackie.

8 Are there any elected officials that are on
9 the line? I am looking at the roster of signed up
10 speakers. I don't see any signified, but there are
11 there any elected officials? Normally I allow
12 elected officials to speak first.

13 Hearing none, I will turn it over to Mr.
14 Trierweiler and Mr. Watrous, if you guys want to go
15 ahead and announce the first three customers to
16 speak.

17 MR. WATROUS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 The first three witnesses to provide sworn
19 testimony are Meghan McCollum, David Zima and
20 Howard Kubsch.

21 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Is Meghan McCollum on the
22 line?

23 MS. MCCOLLUM: Hi, I am on the line.

24 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Excellent. Ma'am, you are
25 recognized to speak when you are ready.

1 MS. MCCOLLUM: Yes. Can you hear me okay?

2 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Hear you loud and clear.

3 MS. MCCOLLUM: Okay. Great.

4 So I am Meghan McCollum. I am speaking
5 against Duke's minimum bills. The \$30 minimum bill
6 is unfair and punishes those with energy efficient
7 homes, who are part-time residents and those who
8 are trying to age in place. I am a solar owner,
9 and using my own credits to reduce my bill and then
10 hitting me with a minimum bill is double dipping
11 and stealing from my investment.

12 Minimum bills incentivize homeowners to be
13 wasteful with their electric usage, homeowners will
14 make sure they use enough electricity to cover the
15 minimum bill by turning down their AC, or taking
16 other energy inefficient measures instead of just
17 giving money to the utility company.

18 Duke already makes a 10-percent profit and
19 wants to increase it to 11.25 percent. Duke Energy
20 Florida electric bills are the fifth highest in the
21 nation for utilities with more than 100,000
22 ratepayers. At a time when Floridians are
23 experiencing inflation and high costs, we must
24 protect them from utility rate hikes that subject
25 them to additional financial hardship.

1 Despite overwhelming evidence about the
2 benefits of rooftop solar, some utilities claim
3 that there is a cost shift due to rooftop solar.
4 This argument assumes that a customer with solar
5 creates the same grid cost as a customer without
6 solar. Using this logic, any customer who takes
7 steps to lower their electric bills by installing
8 LED lights, lowering their thermostat, installing
9 new windows could be accused of not paying their
10 fair share.

11 Net metering allows homeowners to take excess
12 power, anything they produce beyond what they use
13 and trade it back to the grid in exchange for
14 credit that they can use to lower their own bills.
15 This makes economic sense, homeowners save on their
16 power bills, and the utilities can resell the
17 provider for a profit.

18 Net metering is a popular policy that empowers
19 Floridians to take control of their electric bills
20 and create local jobs while doing it. Florida's
21 net metering policies have been in place for over a
22 decade, and 93 percent of Floridians support this
23 policy. So I ask that you please protect net
24 metering and deny a request for minimum bills.

25 Thank you so for your time.

1 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you for your
2 testimony.

3 Next up is Davis Zima. Is Davis Zima on the
4 line? Mr. David Zima, are you on the line?

5 I'm not hearing David Zima. Let's move to
6 Howard Kubsch, or Kubsch. Am I saying that
7 correctly? Howard Kubsch.

8 STAFF: Sir, there are no more callers on the
9 line.

10 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: All right.

11 STAFF: There was only one caller, and it was
12 McCollum, and she just dropped.

13 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: So just to clarify, there
14 was no one on the line as we got started, or before
15 we got started, just the one person?

16 STAFF: Only Ms. McCollum, and she's dropped.

17 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Okay. All right. So let
18 me, just for the record, just open it up. Is there
19 anyone else on the line, which obviously our
20 technical staff is telling us that no. Is there
21 anyone else on the line that would like an
22 opportunity to speak? Is there anybody here in
23 person?

24 OPC, are you --

25 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

1 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: I am going to go to OPC.
2 Are you okay if we conclude or --

3 MR. WATROUS: I believe so, yes. But I would
4 like to clarify for the record that I meant to say
5 the next three customers to provide sworn testimony
6 and not witnesses.

7 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Okay. Excellent.

8 MR. WATROUS: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Mr. Trierweiler.

10 MR. TRIERWEILER: Public Counsel. I just want
11 to make sure that we are not aware of any technical
12 drops or anything like that.

13 Okay. Yeah, with your -- with your
14 permission, we like to reach out and just make sure
15 tomorrow and the next day if they -- and find out
16 if they had some technical difficulties. And if
17 they did, we would like to encourage them to go
18 ahead and submit a comment into the docket if they
19 so choose --

20 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Sure.

21 MR. TRIERWEILER: -- if they did run into some
22 sort of technical difficulty, since we only got one
23 out of seven.

24 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Yeah, either way, technical
25 difficulties or not, you have got their

1 information, so you certainly have the ability to
2 do that. And obviously, anything that gets sent
3 into us, we will, of course, include in the docket.

4 MR. TRIERWEILER: All right. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you.

6 Commissioners, any -- or let me go to the
7 parties. Any thoughts on anything?

8 Commissioners, any other questions or comments
9 on tonight's service hearing?

10 Commissioner Fay, you are recognized.

11 COMMISSIONER FAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
12 Just one quick comment.

13 I know that some of the parties had mentioned
14 this at some point, but you have made it a priority
15 to make sure that there is someone who can
16 translate for the Spanish customers during our
17 meetings, and I just want to let you know, I
18 appreciate that. I think that it does take some
19 additional time, but I did it served the purpose
20 making those customers were heard if they wanted
21 to, so thank you for doing that.

22 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you. Thank you.

23 INTERPRETER: Would you like me to translate
24 that? I don't think there is anybody left.

25 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: No, I think we are -- I

1 think we are good, unless we hear someone jump on
2 the line.

3 Commissioner Passidomo, you are recognized.

4 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman.

6 On Commissioner Fay's comment, just include --
7 I said this morning in our Agenda that, you know,
8 also you are free to, you know, submit comments in
9 Spanish. We will be able to interpret them and
10 read them. So if you weren't able to call today,
11 feel free, and you don't have anybody to translate
12 for you into English, we can -- we will accept
13 those in Spanish and we will read them and evaluate
14 them the same as if they are in English.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you.

17 Commissioner Clark, I am just looking at you.
18 That sounds good? I am sorry. Go ahead, Jackie.

19 MS. GULDRIS: Okay. I know this is recorded,
20 I don't know if you want me to translate that.

21 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Yes. That's a good point.
22 So if you want to go ahead and translate the two
23 comments made by both Commissioners, I guess as
24 best you can. I know kind of ad lib.

25 MS. GULDRIS: All righty.

1 (Interpreter providing statements in Spanish.)

2 CHAIRMAN LA ROSA: Thank you, Jackie. And

3 thank you to all the parties.

4 Commissioners, if there is no further business

5 before us, see that this service hearing is

6 adjourned.

7 Thank you.

8 (Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

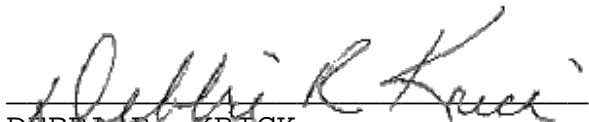
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby
certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the
time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I
stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the
same has been transcribed under my direct supervision;
and that this transcript constitutes a true
transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
financially interested in the action.

DATED this 3rd day of July, 2024.


DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024