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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for rate increase by Duke Energy
Florida, LLC.

DOCKET NO. 20240025-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-2024-0234-PCO-EI
ISSUED: July 11, 2024

ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On July 8, 2024, Duke Energy Florida, LLC (DEF) and Citizens of the State of Florida through the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) filed a Joint Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule. In the Joint Motion, DEF and OPC (Joint Parties) represent that they have reached an agreement in principle to resolve all issues in this docket. The Joint Parties further state that they and several other parties to this docket “have committed to working together to draft a formal Settlement Agreement that memorializes all aspects of the agreement in principle between the Joint Parties.” The Joint Parties aver that they intend to submit the Settlement Agreement in time for it to be considered by the Commission during the two-week period currently set aside for the final hearing (August 12-16 and August 19-23).

In order to focus on finalizing and filing the proposed Settlement Agreement, the Joint Parties request that the Commission “suspend all pending hearings, deadlines, and other matters in this docket (including discovery not related to the Settlement Agreement)” EVGo Services, LLC, and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, do not oppose the Joint Motion. Americans for Affordable Clean Energy, Inc., Circle K Stores, Inc., RaceTrac Inc., Wawa, Inc. and the Sierra Club take no position. All other intervenors support the Joint Motion.

Decision

The general process and timing for filing a settlement agreement for consideration by the Commission is set forth in Section VI(A) of the Order Establishing Procedure (OEP) titled “Prehearing Procedures.” Importantly for purposes of this Order, the OEP provides that the parties should file a settlement “as soon as practicable to allow time for discovery, a hearing on the settlement, and a post-hearing decision.” This process and the Commission’s decision on the request for a rate increase must also be made in compliance with the statutory time frames under Section 366.06(3), Florida Statutes (F.S.).

The unopposed relief requested by the Joint Parties is reasonable, is intended to promote the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of this proceeding,¹ and is hereby granted. To the extent specifically set forth below, all pending discovery, scheduled hearings, and other matters shall be suspended.² This suspension is temporary and shall be lifted as necessary to ensure a sufficient time for the Commission to make its decision consistent with the statutory time frame

¹ Rule 28-106.211, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

² Because the deadlines for filing requests for confidential classification (RFCC) referenced in the OEP are codified in Rule 25-22.006(3), F.A.C., they are unaffected by this Order.