

STATE OF FLORIDA

ORIGINAL

Commissioners:
JULIA L. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JOE GARCIA
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.



DIVISION OF RECORDS & REPORTING
BLANCA S. BAYÓ
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6770

Public Service Commission

DATE: September 9, 1998
TO: Parties of Record
FROM: Blanca S. Bayó, Director *BSB*
Division of Records and Reporting
RE: DOCKET NO. 980755-EU - Joint petition for approval of new territorial agreement between Florida Power & Light Company and Jacksonville Electric Authority.

RECEIVED-FPSC
10 SEP -9 PM 3:57
RECORDS AND REPORTING

This is to inform you that the Commission has reported the following communication in the above-referenced docket.

- FAX message from Rep. John Thrasher's office, dated August 26, 1998 attaching copy of letter from Mr. Bob A. Schotman dated August 24, 1998.

The FAX message and letter, copies of which are attached, are being made a part of the record in these proceedings. Pursuant to Section 350.042, F.S. any party who desires to respond to an ex parte communication may do so. The response must be received by the Commission within 10 days after receiving notice that the ex parte communication has been placed on the record. Please mail your response to the Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870.

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF BSB/cp
- CMU _____
- CTR Attachment
- EAG cc: Rob Vandiver/w/letter
- LEG _____
- LIN _____
- OPC _____
- RCH _____
- SEC 1
- WAS _____
- OTH _____

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE
0984 SEP -9 8
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

August 24, 1998

1922 Grove Eluff Road
Switzerland, FL 32259

John Thrasher
Representative, District 19
2233 Park Avenue, Suite 302
Orange Park, FL 32079-5569

Dear Representative Thrasher:

As you are aware, a substantial number of households in the NW St. Johns County area will be negatively effected by the proposed JEA/FPL territorial realignment. Our community has expressed its vehement opposition to this proposal in several 'town meetings', through letters and petitions. Our Board of County Commissioners has also gone on record as opposing the proposal.

This letter is my request that you assist in helping us defeat this proposal. The following represent key issues for your consideration:

1. Households in the effected area will be saddled with substantial rate increases (10% to over 15%, depending on average KW usage). We feel this rate increase is unwarranted, unfair and burdensome. We have a number of families/individuals in our community on low and/or fixed incomes, who will be hard-hit by an increase in their household costs of the magnitude proposed.
2. The FPSC will make its recommendation to approve or deny the proposal (Docket # 980755; vote to be on or about September 22) based in large part on two criteria:
 - a) "the reasonable likelihood that the agreement, in and of itself, will not a decrease in the reliability of electrical service to the existing or future rate payers of utility party to the agreement and,
 - b) "the reasonable likelihood that the agreement will eliminate existing or potential uneconomic duplication of facilities."

Please note that it is virtually impossible for our community to prove that we will have a decrease in service level or that there is duplication of facilities; we can do little more than provide some anecdotes. As you well know, we tend to take our electricity for granted: rarely do we experience problems that would form the basis for a sufficient level of complaints to defeat the proposal. The vast majority of the effected households have no personal experience with FPL, have no basis for assessing duplicate facilities, and are satisfied with the service they currently receive from JEA.

The FPSC will apparently give little or no weight to the economic impact on every household in our area.

3. We have been given no detailed information about the business drivers behind this proposal. While we have no facts, the 'scuttlebutt' is that JEA is trading the rapidly growing and lucrative NW St. Johns County market for several large/lucrative commercial users to the west of Duval County.

We see no reason why these business arrangements should increase our rates by an abusive amount.

4. The hardball strategy deployed by the two utilities is devious at best, ethically bankrupt at worse.

While the JEA stated that it was retrenching into the Duval service area, the proposal stops far short of the county line. It is indeed curious that the boundaries of the swapped area carefully gerrymander around the Julington Creek and River Oaks Plantation communities. These are the only two subdivisions with sufficient 'clout' to offer serious resistance to the proposal. Once the swap has been complete, these two communities will be 'sitting ducks' for the next realignment proposal.

At our last 'Town Hall' meeting the FPL representative stated that they would file a request to the FPSC to keep our rates equal to the JEA rates for a period of three years (for existing customers only). As soon as our Commissioners announced they would oppose the proposal, the FPL representative basically said they would withdraw this offer.

5. Approval of this proposal will effect property values. There are a number of small subdivisions whose homeowners will be placed at a disadvantage when selling their homes. Given the above referenced gerrymandering, and the fact that the homes in these small subdivisions are generally similar, the differential in utility rates is expected to place the newly acquired FPL homes at a market disadvantage.

We (all the effected households) are frustrated with the virtually powerless position in which we find ourselves. We need your help in defeating this proposal, or at least assuring that our rates are protected for an extended period of time. I look forward to your participation, can assist you in arranging a meeting with spokespersons for the various subdivisions/areas effected, and am available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Bob A. Schotman

CC:

Julia Johnson, Chairperson
Division of Electric and Gas
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dana Treon, Staff Writer
The Florida Times-Union
P.O. Box 1040

STATE OF FLORIDA

JULIA L. JOHNSON
CHAIRMAN



CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER PSC
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0854
(850) 415-6048
AUG 28 AM 11:02

Public Service Commission

RECORDS AND
REPORTING

August 27, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Blanca Bayo
Director of Records and Reporting

FROM: Julia L. Johnson, Chairman *JLJ*

SUBJECT: FAX Message received from Representative John Thrasher regarding
the Proposed JEA/FPL Realignment 980755-EU

Please find attached a letter dated August 26, 1998, from Rep. John Thrasher's office. Because this letter is relevant to a docketed matter, I ask that you place this memorandum and attachments on the record of the above-referenced proceeding.

Also, please give notice of this communication to all parties to the docket, and inform them that they have ten days from receipt of the notice to file a response.

Thank you for your help.

JLJ:CJW:ssf

Attachment:

cc: Docket File No. 960617 (MCI)



98-0695 AUG 28

Rep. John Thrasher

District 19

Staff: **Jim Roy**
Jennie Bailey

8/26

District Office Address:
Suite 302
2233 Park Avenue
Orange Park, Florida 32073-5569
(904)777-2110
FAX (904) 777-2112

Capitol Office Address:
Room 513
The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
(850) 488-1304

To: Rod Vanduin P.S.C. # of pages including cover sheet 4

FAX # 850 413-6077 Phone # 850 413-6076

For your information []

The Representative requested this be sent []

Please respond []

As requested []

Notes:

Rod, This is the issue we discussed, a draft
response for Rep Thrasher's review would be appreciated
Thrasher

From: Carol Purvis CONFIRMED
To: Bill Berg, Billy Stiles, Curtis Williams, Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Melinda
Subject: fwd: Ex Parte

====NOTE=====8/31/98==4:30pm=====

CC: Kathleen Stewart

.....
Chairman Johnson has reported receiving a letter from Representative John Thrasher's office dated August 24, 1998, concerning Docket No. 980755-EU - Joint petition for approval of new territorial agreement between Florida Power & Light Company and Jacksonville Electric Authority. We are preparing to distribute this letter to the parties to this docket. Would you please let me know if your Commissioner also received this letter from Rep. Thrasher's Office.

Fwd-by:=-Billy=Stiles==9/01/98==8:46am=====

Fwd to: Kay Posey

.....
Did we get this?

Fwd-by:=-Kay=Posey====9/01/98==9:41am=====

Fwd to: Billy Stiles

.....
I'll have to look.

Fwd-by:=-Billy=Stiles==9/01/98==9:46am=====

Fwd to: Carol Purvis

.....
Kay has checked and we don't have any record of receiving this communication

From: Carol Purvis CONFIRMED
To: Bill Berg, Billy Stiles, Curtis Williams, Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Melinda
Subject: fwd: Ex Parte

====NOTE====8/31/98==4:30pm====
CC: Kathleen Stewart

.....
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Fwd-by:=-Kathleen=Stew=8/31/98==5:00pm====
Fwd to: Carol Purvis

.....
no

From: Carol Purvis Confirm receipt
To: Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Melinda Butler, Bill Berg, Billy Stiles, Curtis W
Subject: Ex Parte

-----NOTE-----
CC: Kathleen Stewart
BCC: Robby Cunningham

.....
Chairman Johnson has reported receiving a letter from Representative John Thrasher's office dated August 24, 1998, concerning Docket No. 980755-EU - Joint petition for approval of new territorial agreement between Florida Power & Light Company and Jacksonville Electric Authority. We are preparing to distribute this letter to the parties to this docket. Would you please let me know if your Commissioner also received this letter from Rep. Thrasher's Office.
