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Docket No. 120015 - EI b.

In re: Petition for rate increase by Florida Power & Light Company

- The Document is being filed on behalf of Florida Power & Light Company. C.
- d. There are a total of 5 pages
- The document attached for electronic filing is Florida Power & Light Company's Response in Opposition to OPC's Motion for Clarification and/or Reconsideration of Order No. PSC-12-1440-PCO-EI

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for rate increase by Florida Power & Light Company

Docket No. 120015-EI September 7, 2012

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY'S RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO OPC's MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND/OR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER NO. PSC-12-1440-PCO-EI

Pursuant to Rule 28-106.204(1), F.A.C., Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL") hereby files this Response in Opposition ("Response") to the Office of Public Counsel's ("OPC's") September 6, 2012 Motion for Clarification and/or Reconsideration of Order No. PSC-12-1440-PCO-EI ("OPC Motion") and states as follows:

- 1. Order No. PSC-12-1440-PCO-EI ("Order 1440") is the second amendment to the Order Establishing Procedure in this docket. Order 1440 set forth the process and schedule by which the Commission will consider the proposed settlement agreement that FPL, the Florida Industrial Power Users Group ("FIPUG"), the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association ("SFHHA") and the Federal Executive Agencies ("FEA") (collectively referred to as the "Signatories") jointly moved the Commission to approve on August 15, 2012. The OPC Motion seeks to exempt OPC from the reasonable requirement in Order 1440 that the parties and Staff cooperate in sharing information about their respective views on the proposed settlement agreement by responding to data requests directed to each other. The Presiding Officer contemplates that "[i]nformation obtained through data requests may be used by the parties in their oral arguments and by staff in advising the Commission [concerning the proposed settlement agreement]." Order 1440, at page 2.
- 2. The OPC Motion stridently but unconvincingly asserts that sharing such information is somehow unfair to OPC, using disparaging language that is as provocative as it is

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unwarranted. But OPC's provocations cannot obscure the simple truth that Order 1440 is completely even-handed: it provides each party with exactly the same rights and responsibilities concerning the sharing of information. And the burden of responding to data requests falls equally on all parties as well. In that regard, FPL notes that it is involved in preparing for the exact same NCRC proceeding and is subject to the exact same briefing requirements constituting what OPC plaintively refers to as the "primary burden" of Order 1440. See OPC Motion, at pages 8-9.

- 3. The OPC Motion seeks clarification or reconsideration, but it makes no case for either. There is nothing about the requirement in Order 1440 for parties to respond to data requests that needs clarifying. The Order is clear and direct; each party is entitled to ask other parties up to 100 data requests, and each party must respond to such data requests from Staff or the other parties within five days. OPC does not seriously contend that this requirement is unclear; it simply does not wish to comply.
- 4. Nor is the OPC Motion any more convincing with respect to reconsideration. The standard for reconsideration is straightforward:

The standard of review in a motion for reconsideration is whether the motion identifies a mistake of fact or law, or a point of fact or law which was overlooked or which we failed to consider in rendering our Final Order. <u>Stewart Bonded Warehouse</u>, <u>Inc. v. Bevis</u>, 294 So. 2d 315 (Fla. 1974); <u>Diamond Cab Co. v. King</u>, 146 So. 2d 889 (Fla. 1962); and <u>Pingree v. Quaintance</u>, 394 So. 2d 161 (Fla. 1st DCA 1981). In a motion for reconsideration, it is not appropriate to reargue matters that have already been considered. <u>Sherwood v. State</u>, 111 So. 2d 96 (Fla. 3d DCA 1959), citing <u>State ex. rel. Jaytex Realty Co. v. Green</u>, 105 So. 2d 817 (Fla. 1st DCA 1958)

Re Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc., Docket No. 100330-WS, Order No. PSC-12-0259-FOF-WS at 2 (May 29, 2012). OPC points to no mistake of fact or law in Order 1440 that would meet this standard. All OPC can muster is a cobbled-together theory that Order 1440 is authorizing the

parties to conduct formal discovery and that discovery would be inappropriate because the Order says that information gathered through data requests may not be used during the evidentiary proceeding. But there is nothing in Order 1440 suggesting that the Commission is treating data requests as formal discovery. Rule 28-106.211, F.A.C., which is cited in Order 1440 and referenced by OPC, provides that the presiding officer may "issue any orders necessary to effectuate discovery, to prevent delay, and to promote the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of all aspects of the case" Order 1440 does not state that it is relying upon Rule 28-106.211 to effectuate discovery; in fact, nowhere else in the Order does the word "discovery" even appear. FPL suggests that Order 1440 is instead fashioning a process for justly, speedily and inexpensively addressing the proposed settlement agreement, and that process includes directing the parties to cooperate in sharing information via data requests that can then be used to help inform the Commission during oral argument. This is a logical and effective use of the authority granted by Rule 28-106.211. It certainly evinces no mistake of law or fact that would warrant reconsideration.

5. Each of the other Signatories has authorized FPL's counsel to represent that it opposes the OPC Motion.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, FPL respectfully requests that the OPC Motion be denied.

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By: s/John T. Butler

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by electronic service this 7th day of September, 2012, to the following:

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