

**BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In re: Petition for limited proceeding to approve first solar base rate adjustment (SoBRA), effective September 1, 2018. | DOCKET NO.: 20170260-EI  
FILED: April 12, 2018

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**PREHEARING STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL**

The Citizens of the State of Florida, through the Office of Public Counsel (“OPC”), pursuant to the Order Establishing Procedure in this docket, Order No. PSC-2018-0077-PCO-EI, issued February 14, 2018 hereby submit this Prehearing Statement.

**APPEARANCES:**

Charles J. Rehwinkel  
Deputy Public Counsel  
Office of Public Counsel  
c/o The Florida Legislature  
111 West Madison Street, Room 812  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400  
On behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida

1. **WITNESSES:**

None.

2. **EXHIBITS:**

None.

### 3. STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION

Tampa Electric Company seeks approval of its first solar project for inclusion as a specific, discrete adjustment to base rates pursuant to the 2017 Settlement Agreement approved in Order No. PSC-2017-0456-S-EI. Paragraph 6 of the Settlement Agreement provides many criteria for eligibility under the streamlined, limited proceeding base rate freeze exception provided therein.

Citizens intend to conduct limited cross-examination at hearing intended to hold the Company to its burden to demonstrate compliance with the Settlement's terms. At this point, it has not been conclusively demonstrated that the burden has been met by Tampa Electric.

### 4. STATEMENT OF FACTUAL ISSUES AND POSITIONS

**ISSUE 1:** Are the 2018 SoBRA projects eligible for treatment pursuant to paragraph 6 of the 2017 Agreement?

**OPC:** No. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement.

**ISSUE 2:** Are the 2018 SoBRA projects proposed by TECO cost effective pursuant to subparagraph 6(g)?

**OPC:** No. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement.

**ISSUE 3:** Are the projected installed costs of each of TECO's 2018 SoBRA projects under the Installed Cost Cap pursuant to subparagraph 6(d) of the 2017 Agreement?

**OPC:** No. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement.

**ISSUE 4:** Is the projected average capital cost of the 2018 SoBRA projects no more than \$1,475 per kW<sub>ac</sub> for the year 2018 pursuant to subparagraph 6(c), of the 2017 Agreement?

**OPC:** No. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement.

**ISSUE 5:** What are the estimated annual revenue requirements associated with TECO's 2018 SoBRA projects?

**OPC:** At this time Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement, so the actual revenue requirements cannot be determined for certain.

**ISSUE 6:** What are the appropriate base rates needed to collect the estimated annual revenue requirement for the two solar projects in the First SoBRA?

**OPC:** At this time Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement, so the actual base rates needed to collect an uncertain revenue requirement cannot be determined for certain.

**ISSUE 7:** Should the Commission approve the revised tariffs for TECO reflecting the base rate increases for the 2018 projects determined to be appropriate in these proceedings?

**OPC:** Not at this time. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement.

**ISSUE 8:** Should this docket be closed?

**OPC:** No. Tampa Electric has not met its burden of demonstrating compliance with all applicable terms of the 2017 Settlement Agreement. The docket should remain open until a final true-up based on actual costs is determined by the Commission.

**5. STIPULATED ISSUES:**

None at this time.

**6. PENDING MOTIONS:**

None.

**7. STATEMENT OF PARTY'S PENDING REQUESTS OR CLAIMS FOR  
CONFIDENTIALITY:**

None.

**8. OBJECTIONS TO QUALIFICATION OF WITNESSES AS AN EXPERT:**

None at this time.

9. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURE:

There are no requirements of the Order Establishing Procedure with which the Office of Public Counsel cannot comply.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

J.R. Kelly  
Public Counsel



Charles J. Rehwinkel  
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c/o The Florida Legislature  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Prehearing Statement has been furnished by electronic mail on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018, to the following:

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