## **Ereecy McNeal**

From: Betty Leland

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 05, 2019 9:35 AM **To:** Commissioner Correspondence

**Subject:** Letter from Thomas W. Barwin Sarasota City Manager re: FPL Solar Together

Attachments: #2019006 Thomas Barwin Ltr Sarasota City Manager.pdf

Good Morning:

Please place the attached letter in Docket #20190061.

Thanks.

Betty Leland, Executive Assistant to Chairman Art Graham Florida Public Service Commission bleland@psc.state.fl.us (850) 413-6024







November 1, 2019

The Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Dear Chairman Graham and Members of the Florida Public Service Commission:

I am writing to respectfully request your approval of Florida Power and Light's (FPL) SolarTogether Program and Tariff with the modifications proposed in their joint motion submitted on October 9, 2019.

In June of 2017, the City of Sarasota adopted a Ready for 100 Resolution, committing our organization and the community to 100% renewable energy by 2030 and 2045, respectively. Recently, the City Commission approved the pre-registration to participate in FPL's SolarTogether program which allows us to achieve over 70% of our adopted goals for city operations.

In addition to having progressive renewable energy goals, the City of Sarasota values social equity and supports projects targeted to assist low income communities. The amendment to the SolarTogether program to reserve 37.5 MW of the installations for low-income customers – a change that will allow 10,000 of these households to participate in the SolarTogether program - and the assurance that the subscription fee will never exceed the bill credit in any given month for these families, is an important change that the City of Sarasota supports.

We have been proud to partner with FPL on many projects that support energy efficiency and renewables. For example, our franchise agreement with FPL includes a Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Energy Sustainability Agreement which sets a framework for FPL to conduct energy audits for city residents that go above-and-beyond their standard services, installations of EV charging stations and LED streetlight installations, among other projects. FPL has been an active participant in the City's Ready for 100 planning efforts and we commend their investment in renewable energy to advance solar in the Sunshine State.

The City knows that Florida utility companies play a large part in advancing renewable energy and bringing municipal-level goals to a reality, and therefore highly encourages the PSC to support the SolarTogether Program. I thank you for your thoughtful consideration. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or the City's Sustainability Manager, Stevie Freeman-Montes, at (941) 263-6314.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Barwin City Manager

> Sarasota City Manager's Office 1565 First Street, Sarasota, Fl. 34236 Telephone: 941-954-4102