

Antonia Hover

From: Hannah Barker
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket Correspondence
Attachments: SG33-KM_45820090310190.pdf

Good morning,

Please place the attached letter in Docket No. 20200176. Thank you!

Hannah E. Barker

Executive Assistant to Chairman Clark

Florida Public Service Commission

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CITY OF CLEARWATER

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CITY MANAGER

August 28, 2020

Gary F. Clark, Chairman
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
contact@psc.state.fl.us



Re: Docket No. 20200176 – Petition to Approve Duke Energy’s Clean Energy Connection Program

Dear Chairman and Members of the Florida Public Service Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on Duke Energy Florida’s Clean Energy Connection (CEC) program.

The City of Clearwater is committed to implementing the strategies laid out in its sustainability plan, Clearwater Greenprint. This plan outlines the City’s current and future sustainability initiatives and has a primary objective of decreasing the Clearwater community’s greenhouse gas emissions. To date, the City has conducted two greenhouse gas inventories, the first based off of 2007 data and the second based off of 2018 data. Emissions from energy consumption continue to be the largest contributor of greenhouse gas emissions across the city.

Community solar is a critical tool to help Clearwater achieve its future emission reduction commitments. The Clearwater Greenprint plan includes a “Renewable Energy Finance” strategy, which recommends that the City participate in public/private partnerships to finance renewable energy systems. In addition, we need more community options to expand solar access to more of our residents and businesses, including renters and those who cannot or choose not to install a solar system due to financial or other considerations.

For all of these reasons, we encourage the Commission to take steps to approve Duke’s Clean Energy Connection program.

Frank V. Hibbard, Mayor

Mark Bunker, Councilmember
Kathleen Beckman, Councilmember



David Allbritton, Councilmember
Hoyt Hamilton, Councilmember

“Equal Employment and Affirmative Action Employer”

Additionally, we would like to highlight several ways that Duke worked collaboratively with Florida cities and counties via the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network to consider and incorporate feedback when designing its program. Specifically Duke:

1. Increased the size of the CEC's low-income offering to reflect the percentage of residential customers living in poverty in its service territory;
2. Significantly increased the allocation of the program's benefits to non-participants;
3. Established a set aside and extended enrollment window for local governments in recognition of the unique public review and approval processes that local governments must undertake in order to sign-up for a program like this;
4. Agreed to analyze a future program add-on that would include battery systems paired with on-site solar as a means to support public health and safety outcomes and the resilience of critical infrastructure; and
5. Agreed to conduct competitive solicitations, consider third-party development projects for its 10 CEC solar sites, and not to propose changes to its net energy metering tariff before 2023 — all as a means to support local job creation and Florida's growing clean energy industry.

Finally, if approved, this program would complement Florida Power and Light's SolarTogether program, significantly enhance access to clean energy across the state, and continue to set the standard for voluntary clean energy offerings for other utilities in Florida and nationally.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments.

Respectfully,



William B. Horne, II
City Manager