

Antonia Hover

From: Angie Calhoun
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Cc: Diana Vizcarrondo
Subject: FW: Docket No. 20200176 – Petition to approve Duke Energy's clean energy connection program
Attachments: Docket No.20200176-Petition to Approve Duke Energy's Clean Energy Connection Program.pdf

Consumer correspondence for docket 20200176.

Angela Calhoun

From: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Angie Calhoun <ACalhoun@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: FW: Docket No. 20200176 – Petition to approve Duke Energy's clean energy connection program

Consumer correspondence for docket 20200176.

Sincerely,

Diana Vizcarrondo
Regulatory Specialist II
Office of Consumer Assistance

Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net <Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket No. 20200176 – Petition to approve Duke Energy's clean energy connection program

Good morning,
Please find the attached letter on behalf of Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings.
Let me know if you require any additional information in order for our letter to be read into the record.

Jeff Benavides, LEED AP O+M, GGP, ISSP-SPC, NABCEP-PVA
Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer
Orange County Government: County Administrator's Office
201 S. Rosalind Avenue, 5th Floor
Orlando, Florida 32802
Desk: (407) 836-7389 | Cell: (407) 491-9211 | Email: Jeff.Benavides@ocfl.net



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ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR

Jerry L. Demings

P.O. BOX 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • EMAIL: MAYOR@OCFL.NET

September 9, 2020

Chairman Gary F. Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

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

Dear Chairman Clark:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback regarding Duke Energy Florida’s (DEF) Clean Energy Connection (CEC) Program. In 2007, Orange County adopted its first Climate Protection Campaign that outlined strategies to support energy conservation and the growth of renewable energy in our region. In 2020, I appointed Jeff Benavides as the County’s first Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer to demonstrate my commitment to build a community of the future. Orange County is home to many utility scale power projects, including Reedy Creek and Taylor Creek. Additionally, we are in the process of creating a roadmap that drastically increases clean energy throughout the county.

We support Duke Energy Florida’s commitment to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Adding solar photo voltaic energy to DEF’s energy portfolio is a critical step along the difficult, but necessary path to achieve 100 percent clean energy. The county’s residents and businesses need increased access to expanded solar options. This would include those who choose not to install a solar system due to financial or other limitations. As you consider this program, and others of a similar scope, we do not support rate increases for customers who have not voluntarily subscribed to the aforementioned programs.

DEF worked collaboratively with the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, and the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network to incorporate feedback when designing its program. I have noted examples of their efforts:

- Increased the size of the CEC’s low-income offering to reflect the percentage of residential customers living in poverty;
- Significantly increased the allocation of the program’s benefits to non-participants;
- Established a set-aside and extended enrollment window for local governments;

September 9, 2020

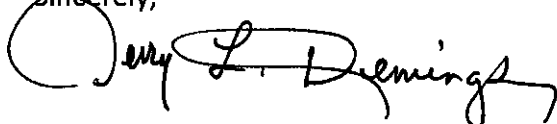
- Agreed to analyze a future program add-on that would include battery systems paired with on-site solar. This will support public health and safety outcomes as well as the resilience of critical infrastructure; and
- Agreed to conduct competitive solicitations, consider third-party development projects for its 10 CEC solar sites; and
- Agreed to not propose changes to its net energy metering tariff before 2023, to support local job creation and Florida's growing clean energy industry.

Orange County supports Duke Energy Florida's CEC program and appreciates the opportunity to be considered as a potential subscriber. Orange County would also like to take this opportunity to highlight additional areas of support desired from DEF as we work to continue planning for the future of our community. These areas include:

- Develop programs and services that can be offered to improve access, options and equity for electric vehicles (EV), and EV infrastructure for residential and commercial customers;
- Develop subscription-based energy storage programs to help mitigate outages and risks to our infrastructure;
- Continue to support net metering and customer-owned electricity generation;
- Work with local governments to gather anonymous data sharing to support sustainability and greenhouse gas inventory and planning efforts; and
- Work with local governments in sharing anonymous energy consumption data at the census-block level to allow cities and counties to effectively design and implement energy efficiency programs.

Orange County is committed to a future that embraces clean energy and energy conservation for our residents and future generations. I appreciate your consideration of my comments. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Orange County Government Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer, Jeff Benavides, at (407) 836-7389 or e-mail: jeff.benavides@ocfl.net.

Sincerely,



Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

c: Orange County Board of County Commission