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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20200001-EI

FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER
COST RECOVERY CLAUSE WITH
GENERATING PERFORMANCE
INCENTIVE FACTOR.

_____ /

VOLUME 2
PAGES 249 through 452

PROCEEDINGS: HEARING

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER JULIE I. BROWN
COMMISSIONER DONALD J. POLMANN
COMMISSIONER ANDREW GILES FAY

DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2020

TIME: Commenced: 10:20 a.m.
Concluded: 5:12 p.m.

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter

APPEARANCES: (As heretofore noted.)

PREMIER REPORTING
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Transcript follows in sequence from
Volume 1.)

1 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of
2 Benjamin F. Smith was inserted.)

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1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2 **PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY**

3 **OF**

4 **BENJAMIN F. SMITH II**

5
6 **Q.** Please state your name, address, occupation, and
7 employer.

8
9 **A.** My name is Benjamin F. Smith II. My business address is
10 702 North Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602. I am
11 employed by Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or
12 "company") as Manager, Gas and Power Origination within
13 the Fuel and Planning Services Department.

14
15 **Q.** Please provide a brief outline of your educational
16 background and business experience.

17
18 **A.** I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electric
19 Engineering in 1991 from the University of South Florida
20 in Tampa, Florida, and a Master of Business Administration
21 degree in 2015 from Saint Leo University in Saint Leo,
22 Florida. I am also a registered Professional Engineer
23 within the State of Florida and a Certified Energy Manager
24 through the Association of Energy Engineers. I joined
25 Tampa Electric in 1990 as a cooperative education student.

1 During my years with the company, I have worked in the
2 areas of transmission engineering, distribution
3 engineering, resource planning, retail marketing, and
4 wholesale power marketing. I am currently the Manager,
5 Gas and Power Origination within the Fuel and Planning
6 Services Department. My responsibilities are to evaluate
7 short and long-term power purchase and sale opportunities
8 within the wholesale power market, assist in wholesale
9 power and gas transportation origination and contract
10 structures, and assist in combustion by-product contract
11 administration and market opportunities. In this
12 capacity, I interact with wholesale power market
13 participants such as utilities, municipalities, electric
14 cooperatives, power marketers, other wholesale developers
15 and independent power producers, as well as with natural
16 gas pipeline owners and transporters.

17
18 **Q.** Have you previously testified before the Florida Public
19 Service Commission ("Commission")?

20
21 **A.** Yes. I have submitted written testimony in the annual
22 fuel docket since 2003, and I have testified before this
23 Commission in Docket Nos. 20030001-EI, 20040001-EI, and
24 20080001-EI regarding the appropriateness and prudence of
25 Tampa Electric's wholesale purchases and sales.

1 **Q.** What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

2

3 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to provide a description
4 of Tampa Electric's purchased power agreements that the
5 company has entered into and for which it is seeking cost
6 recovery through the Fuel and Purchased Power Cost
7 Recovery Clause ("fuel clause") and the Capacity Cost
8 Recovery Clause. I also describe Tampa Electric's
9 purchased power strategy for mitigating price and supply-
10 side risk, while providing customers with a reliable
11 supply of economically priced purchased power.

12

13 **Q.** Please describe the efforts Tampa Electric makes to ensure
14 that its wholesale purchases and sales activities are
15 conducted in a reasonable and prudent manner.

16

17 **A.** Tampa Electric evaluates potential purchase and sale
18 opportunities by analyzing the expected available amounts
19 of generation and power required to meet the projected
20 demand and energy of its customers. Purchases are made
21 to achieve reserve margin requirements, meet customers'
22 demand and energy needs, meet operating reserve
23 requirements, supplement generation during unit outages,
24 and for economical purposes. When Tampa Electric
25 considers making a power purchase, the company diligently

1 searches for available supplies of wholesale capacity or
2 energy from creditworthy counterparties. The objective
3 is to secure reliable quantities of purchased power for
4 customers at the best possible price.

5
6 Conversely, when there is a sales opportunity, the company
7 offers profitable wholesale capacity or energy products
8 to creditworthy counterparties. The company has
9 wholesale power purchase and sale transaction enabling
10 agreements with numerous counterparties. This process
11 helps to ensure that the company's wholesale purchase and
12 sale activities are conducted in a reasonable and prudent
13 manner.

14
15 **Q.** Has Tampa Electric reasonably managed its wholesale power
16 purchases and sales for the benefit of its retail
17 customers?

18
19 **A.** Yes, it has. Tampa Electric has fully complied with, and
20 continues to fully comply with, the Commission's March
21 11, 1997 Order, No. PSC-1997-0262-FOF-EI, issued in
22 Docket No. 19970001-EI, which governs the treatment of
23 separated and non-separated wholesale sales. The
24 company's wholesale purchase and sale activities and
25 transactions are also reviewed and audited on a recurring

1 basis by the Commission.

2
3 In addition, Tampa Electric actively manages its
4 wholesale purchases and sales with the goal of
5 capitalizing on opportunities to reduce customer costs
6 and improve reliability. The company monitors its
7 contractual rights with purchased power suppliers, as
8 well as with entities to which wholesale power is sold,
9 to detect and prevent any breach of the company's
10 contractual rights. Tampa Electric continually strives
11 to improve its knowledge of wholesale power markets and
12 available opportunities within the marketplace. The
13 company uses this knowledge to minimize the costs of
14 purchased power and to maximize the savings the company
15 provides retail customers by making wholesale sales when
16 excess power is available on Tampa Electric's system and
17 market conditions allow.

18
19 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's 2020 wholesale power
20 purchases.

21
22 **A.** Tampa Electric assessed the wholesale power market and
23 entered into short- and long-term purchases based on price
24 and availability of supply. Approximately nine percent
25 of the company's expected needs for 2020 will be met using

1 purchased power. This includes economy energy purchases,
2 reliability purchases, as-available purchases from
3 qualifying facilities, and forward purchases from Duke
4 Energy Florida (DEF), the Florida Municipal Power Agency
5 (FMPA), Florida Power & Light (FPL), and the Orlando
6 Utilities Commission (OUC).

7
8 Tampa Electric secured two non-firm and five firm
9 purchases in 2020. The company secured the non-firm
10 purchases during the first quarter of 2020, with DEF and
11 FPL. The DEF non-firm purchase is an extension of Tampa
12 Electric's previous contract to purchase non-firm energy
13 from DEF for the period February 2019 through February
14 2020. The extension covers the period March 2020 through
15 February 2021, and the energy volume available under the
16 contract remains at a maximum of 515 MW per hour. The
17 DEF extension does not have a must-take obligation. The
18 extension provides Tampa Electric the flexibility to
19 schedule the energy when beneficial to customers. The
20 FPL non-firm purchase is a must-take for 150-300 MW,
21 depending on the month and hour, and is for the term April
22 through November 2020. The must-take hours are hours
23 ending 7 through 24 (i.e., HE 7-24), May through October,
24 and HE 7-23, April and November. Combined, the two non-
25 firm transactions are estimated to result in \$5.25 million

1 in savings to customers. As authorized by the Commission
2 in Order No. 2017-0456-S-EI, issued on November 27, 2017,
3 these savings flow through the company's optimization
4 mechanism which are described in the Fuel and Purchased
5 Power Cost Recovery and Capacity Cost Recovery docket
6 annual true-up filing along with mechanism saving sharing
7 reporting and accompanying testimony of Tampa Electric
8 witness John C. Heisey.

9
10 The five firm purchase agreements by dates of occurrence
11 are:

- 12
- 13 • December 2019 through February 2020: 112 MW from FMPA
- 14 • July 2020 through September 2020: 74 MW from FMPA
- 15 • December 2020 through February 2021: 150 MW from
16 FMPA, 160 MW from FPL, and 100 MW from OUC
- 17

18 The company secured these purchase agreements during the
19 fourth quarter of 2019. All of the agreements are peaking
20 call options, and a portion of the agreements have been
21 entered into for reliability purposes. The 112 MW from
22 FMPA and 95 MW of the 150 MW from FMPA are to meet the
23 company's 20 percent firm reserve margin criteria during
24 the winter 2020 and winter 2021 periods, respectively.
25 The balance of the purchase agreements represent economic

1 purchases and support the Big Bend Modernization Project
2 by allowing an early re-powering outage on Big Bend Unit
3 1, which is the unit being modernized. The early re-
4 powering outage provides the Modernization team with more
5 flexibility to schedule work on the unit, given the
6 Modernization's two new combustion turbines are expected
7 to be in-service by the fall of 2021. The economic
8 portion of these purchases (i.e., 74 MW FMPA, 160 MW FPL,
9 100 MW OUC, and 55 MW of the FMPA 150 MW) is estimated to
10 provide a combined \$445.9 thousand in savings to
11 customers, \$325.6 thousand of which are expected to be
12 generated in 2020. As mentioned earlier, these savings
13 flow through the company's optimization mechanism and
14 benefit customers in accordance with the methodology
15 approved by the Commission.

16
17 Tampa Electric has not secured other forward purchases
18 for 2020 at this time. However, the company constantly
19 searches for economic purchase opportunities that benefit
20 customers. As other purchase opportunities materialize,
21 the company evaluates each product to determine the
22 viability of making it part of the supply portfolio Tampa
23 Electric uses to serve customers.

24
25 **Q.** Does Tampa Electric anticipate entering into new

1 wholesale power purchases for 2021 and beyond?

2

3 **A.** Other than the previously mentioned DEF extension and firm
4 purchases for December 2020 through February 2021, Tampa
5 Electric has made no other forward purchases to date.
6 However, the company will continue to identify and
7 evaluate purchase opportunities for 2021 and beyond that
8 bring value to customers. Currently, Tampa Electric
9 expects purchased power to meet approximately two percent
10 of its 2021 energy needs.

11

12 **Q.** How does Tampa Electric mitigate the risk of disruptions
13 to its purchased power supplies during major weather-
14 related events, such as hurricanes?

15

16 **A.** During hurricane season, Tampa Electric continues to
17 utilize a purchased power risk management strategy to
18 minimize potential power supply disruptions. The
19 strategy includes monitoring storm activity; evaluating
20 the impact of storms on existing forward purchases and
21 the rest of the wholesale power market; communicating with
22 suppliers about their storm preparations and potential
23 impacts to existing transactions, purchasing additional
24 power on the forward market, if appropriate, for
25 reliability and economics; evaluating transmission

1 availability and the geographic location of electric
2 resources; reviewing sellers' fuel sources and dual-fuel
3 capabilities; and focusing on fuel-diversified purchases.
4 Absent the threat of a hurricane, and for all other months
5 of the year, the company evaluates economic combinations
6 of short- and long-term purchase opportunities in the
7 marketplace.

8
9 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's wholesale energy sales
10 for 2020 and 2021.

11
12 **A.** Tampa Electric entered into various non-separated (e.g.,
13 next-hour and next-day sales) wholesale sales in 2020,
14 and the company anticipates making additional non-
15 separated sales during the balance of 2020 and 2021. The
16 gains from these sales are shared between Tampa Electric
17 and its customers in accordance with the company's
18 optimization mechanism.

19
20 **Q.** Please summarize your direct testimony.

21
22 **A.** Tampa Electric monitors and assesses the wholesale power
23 market to identify and take advantage of opportunities in
24 the marketplace, and these efforts benefit the company's
25 customers. Tampa Electric's energy supply strategy

1 includes self-generation and short- and long-term power
2 purchases. The company purchases in both physical forward
3 and spot wholesale power markets to provide customers with
4 a reliable supply at the lowest possible cost. In
5 addition to the cost benefits, this purchased power
6 approach employs a diversified physical power supply
7 strategy that enhances reliability. The company also
8 enters into wholesale sales that benefit customers when
9 market conditions allow.

10
11 **Q.** Does this conclude your direct testimony?

12
13 **A.** Yes, it does.
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1 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of John
2 C. Heisey was inserted.)

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1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2 **PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY**

3 **OF**

4 **JOHN C. HEISEY**

5
6 **Q.** Please state your name, address, occupation and employer.

7
8 **A.** My name is John C. Heisey. My business address is 702 N.
9 Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602. I am employed by
10 Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or "company") as
11 Manager, Gas and Power Trading.

12
13 **Q.** Please provide a brief outline of your educational
14 background and business experience.

15
16 **A.** I graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a
17 Bachelor of Science in Business Logistics. I have over 25
18 years of power and natural gas trading experience,
19 including employment at TECO Energy Source, FPL Energy
20 Services, El Paso Energy, and International Paper. Prior
21 to joining Tampa Electric, I was Vice President of Asset
22 Trading for the Entegra Power Group LLC ("Entegra") where
23 I was responsible for Entegra's energy trading
24 activities. Entegra managed a large quantity of merchant
25 capacity in bilateral and organized markets. I joined

1 Tampa Electric in September 2016 as the Manager of Gas
2 and Power Trading and currently hold that position. I am
3 responsible for all natural gas and power trading
4 activities and work closely with the company's unit
5 commitment to provide low cost, reliable power to our
6 customers. In addition, I am responsible for portfolio
7 optimization and all aspects of the Optimization
8 Mechanism.

9
10 **Q.** Please state the purpose of your testimony.

11
12 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to present, for the
13 Commission's review, the 2019 results of Tampa Electric's
14 activities under the Optimization Mechanism, as
15 authorized by FPSC Order No. PSC-2017-0456-S-EI, issued
16 in Docket No. 20160160-EI on November 27, 2017.

17
18 **Q.** Do you wish to sponsor an exhibit in support of your
19 testimony?

20
21 **A.** Yes. Exhibit No. JCH-1, entitled Optimization Mechanism
22 Results, was prepared under my direction and supervision.
23 My exhibit shows the gains for each type of activity
24 included in the Optimization Mechanism and the sharing of
25 gains between customers and the company.

1 **Q.** Please provide an overview of the Optimization Mechanism.

2

3 **A.** The Optimization Mechanism is designed to create
4 additional value for Tampa Electric's customers while
5 also providing an incentive to the company if certain
6 customer-value thresholds are achieved. The Optimization
7 Mechanism includes gains from wholesale power sales and
8 savings from wholesale power purchases, as well as gains
9 from other forms of asset optimization.

10

11 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's Optimization Mechanism
12 submitted in Docket No. 20160160-EI and approved by Order
13 No. PSC-2017-0456-S-EI.

14

15 **A.** Effective January 1, 2018, for the four-year period from
16 2018 through 2021, gains on all optimization mechanism
17 activities, including short-term wholesale sales, short-
18 term wholesale purchases, and all forms of asset
19 optimization undertaken each year will be shared between
20 shareholders and customers. The sharing thresholds are
21 (a) for the first \$4.5 million per year, 100 percent of
22 gains to customers; (b) for gains greater than \$4.5
23 million per year and less than \$8.0 million per year,
24 split 60 percent to shareholders and 40 percent to
25 customers; and (c) for gains greater than \$8.0 million

1 per year, 50-50 sharing between shareholders and
2 customers.

3
4 **Optimization Mechanism Transactions**

5 **Q.** Please provide the details of Tampa Electric's short-term
6 wholesale sales under the Optimization Mechanism for
7 2019.

8
9 **A.** Optimization Mechanism gains from wholesale sales were
10 \$1,498,686 or 23 percent of optimization gains for 2019.
11 The monthly detail is shown in my exhibit in the schedule
12 "Wholesale Sales-Table 3."

13
14 **Q.** Please provide the details of Tampa Electric's short-term
15 wholesale purchases under the Optimization Mechanism for
16 2019.

17
18 **A.** Optimization Mechanism gains from wholesale purchases
19 were \$4,428,298 or 68 percent of optimization gains for
20 2019. The monthly detail can be found in my exhibit on
21 the schedule labeled "Wholesale Purchases-Table 4."

22
23 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's asset optimization
24 activities and the gains from those transactions under
25 the Optimization Mechanism for 2019.

1 **A.** Optimization Mechanism gains from asset optimization
2 activities were \$541,049 or 9 percent of optimization
3 gains for 2019. The gains from asset optimization
4 activities are shown in my exhibit at "Asset Optimization
5 Detail-Table 5."

6
7 A description of Tampa Electric's 2019 asset optimization
8 activities is provided below.

- 9 • Gas storage utilization - release contracted storage
10 space or sell stored gas during non-critical demand
11 seasons;
- 12 • Delivered solid fuel and or transportation capacity
13 sales using existing transport - sell coal and coal
14 transportation, using Tampa Electric's existing coal
15 and transportation capacity during periods when it
16 is not needed to serve Tampa Electric's native
17 electric load;
- 18 • Asset Management Agreement ("AMA") - outsource
19 optimization functions to a third party through
20 assignment of power, transportation and/or storage
21 rights in exchange for a premium to be paid to Tampa
22 Electric.

23
24 **Q.** Please summarize the activities and results of the
25 Optimization Mechanism for 2019.

1 **A.** Tampa Electric participated in the following Optimization
2 Mechanism activities in 2019: wholesale power purchases
3 and sales, gas storage utilization, delivered solid fuel
4 sales, and natural gas storage AMAs. The optimization
5 gains for 2019 were \$6,468,033 which exceeded the
6 \$4,500,000 threshold by \$1,968,033 as shown in my exhibit
7 on schedule "Total Gains Threshold Schedule-Table 1."
8 Customer benefits were \$5,287,213, and company benefits
9 were \$1,180,820 in 2019.

10

11 **Q.** Did Tampa Electric incur incremental Optimization
12 Mechanism costs during 2019?

13

14 **A.** Tampa Electric incurred incremental Optimization
15 Mechanism personnel costs to establish processes and
16 manage these new activities. However, the company agreed
17 that it would not seek recovery of these costs through
18 the Optimization Mechanism if it was approved and
19 therefore has not separately tracked the costs.

20

21 **Q.** Overall, were Tampa Electric's activities under the
22 Optimization Mechanism successful in 2019?

23

24 **A.** Yes, Tampa Electric produced customer gains of \$5,287,213
25 in the second year of Optimization Mechanism activity.

1 The company continues to focus on improvements in
2 processes, reporting, and optimization strategies.

3
4 The southeast United States experienced mild winter
5 weather. Thus, most of the Optimization Mechanism gains
6 in 2019 were generated in the spring, summer, and fall.
7 Economic wholesale power purchases were the largest
8 contributor of gains in the summer. Additional gains
9 resulted from wholesale power purchases made in the spring
10 during company planned maintenance. Wholesale power
11 sales gains were driven by above normal temperatures in
12 May, June, and October. Natural gas storage AMA gains
13 were consistent throughout the year. Lastly, coal sales
14 contributed solid fuel gains in the first half of the
15 year.

16
17 **Q.** Does this conclude your testimony?

18
19 **A.** Yes, it does.

20

21

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1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2 **PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY**

3 **OF**

4 **JOHN C. HEISEY**

5

6 **Q.** Please state your name, address, occupation, and
7 employer.

8

9 **A.** My name is John C. Heisey. My business address is 702 N.
10 Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602. I am employed by
11 Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or "company") as
12 Manager, Gas and Power Trading.

13

14 **Q.** Have you previously filed testimony in Docket No.
15 20200001-EI?

16

17 **A.** Yes, I submitted direct testimony on March 2, 2020.

18

19 **Q.** Has your job description, education, or professional
20 experience changed since your most recent testimony?

21

22 **A.** No, it has not.

23

24 **Q.** What is the purpose of your testimony?

25

1 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to discuss Tampa Electric's
2 fuel mix, fuel price forecasts, potential impacts to fuel
3 prices, and the company's fuel procurement strategies.
4

5 **Fuel Mix and Procurement Strategies**

6 **Q.** What fuels do Tampa Electric's generating stations use?
7

8 **A.** Tampa Electric's fuel mix includes natural gas, solar,
9 coal, and, as a backup fuel, oil. Big Bend Unit 2 can
10 operate on natural gas, and Big Bend Units 3 and 4 can
11 operate on coal or natural gas. Polk Unit 1 can operate
12 on natural gas or a blend of petroleum coke and coal.
13 Currently, the company is operating Big Bend Unit 2, Big
14 Bend Unit 3 and Polk Unit 1 on natural gas and Big Bend
15 Unit 4 on coal. Polk Unit 2 combined cycle uses natural
16 gas as a primary fuel and oil as a secondary fuel; and
17 Bayside Station combined cycle units and the company's
18 collection of peakers (*i.e.*, aero-derivative combustion
19 turbines) all utilize natural gas. Since it serves as a
20 backup fuel, oil consumption is primarily for testing,
21 and oil is a negligible percentage of system generation.
22 During 2020, continued low natural gas prices equate to
23 lower fuel prices for customers. Based upon the 2020
24 actual-estimate projections, the company expects 2020
25 total system generation, excluding purchased power, to be

1 89 percent natural gas, 7 percent solar, and 4 percent
2 coal.

3
4 Likewise, in 2021, natural gas-fired and solar generation
5 are expected to be 87 percent and 8 percent of total
6 generation, respectively, with coal-fired generation
7 making up 5 percent of total generation.

8
9 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's fuel supply procurement
10 strategy.

11
12 **A.** Tampa Electric emphasizes flexibility and options in its
13 fuel procurement strategy for all its fuel needs. The
14 company strives to maintain many credit worthy and viable
15 suppliers. Similarly, the company endeavors to maintain
16 multiple delivery path options. Tampa Electric also
17 attempts to diversify the locations from which its supply
18 is sourced. Having a greater number of fuel supply and
19 delivery options provides increased reliability and
20 flexibility to pursue lower cost options for Tampa
21 Electric customers.

22
23 **Natural Gas Supply Strategy**

24 **Q.** How does Tampa Electric's natural gas procurement and
25 transportation strategy achieve competitive natural gas

1 purchase prices for long- and short-term deliveries?
2

3 **A.** Tampa Electric uses a portfolio approach to natural gas
4 procurement. This approach consists of a blend of pre-
5 arranged base, intermediate, and swing natural gas supply
6 contracts complemented with shorter term spot and
7 seasonal purchases. The contracts have various time
8 lengths to help secure needed supply at competitive prices
9 and maintain the ability to take advantage of favorable
10 natural gas price movements. Tampa Electric purchases
11 its physical natural gas supply from creditworthy
12 counterparties, enhancing the liquidity and
13 diversification of its natural gas supply portfolio. The
14 natural gas prices are based on monthly and daily price
15 indices, further increasing pricing diversification.
16

17 Tampa Electric diversifies its pipeline transportation
18 assets, including receipt points. The company also
19 utilizes pipeline and storage services to enhance access
20 to natural gas supply during hurricanes or other events
21 that constrain supply. Such actions improve the
22 reliability and cost-effectiveness of the physical
23 delivery of natural gas to the company's power plants.
24 Furthermore, Tampa Electric strives daily to obtain
25 reliable supplies of natural gas at favorable prices in

1 order to mitigate costs to its customers.

2

3 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's diversified natural gas
4 transportation agreements.

5

6 **A.** Tampa Electric currently receives natural gas directly
7 via the Florida Gas Transmission ("FGT") and Gulfstream
8 Natural Gas System, LLC ("Gulfstream") pipelines. Tampa
9 Electric has added the ability to receive a portion of
10 its gas via the recently constructed Sabal Trail
11 Transmission ("Sabal Trail") gas pipeline (via Gulfstream
12 backhaul). The ability to deliver natural gas from three
13 pipelines increases the fuel delivery reliability for
14 Bayside Power Station, which is composed of two large
15 natural gas combined-cycle units and four aero-derivative
16 combustion turbines. Natural gas can also be delivered to
17 Big Bend Station from Gulfstream and Sabal Trail to
18 support the station's steam generating units and aero-
19 derivative combustion turbine. Polk Station receives
20 natural gas from FGT to support natural gas consumption
21 in Polk Unit 1 and Polk Unit 2. The addition of Sabal
22 Trail to the company's delivery options enhances
23 reliability, supply, price, and location diversity.

24

25 **Q.** Are there any significant changes to Tampa Electric's

1 expected natural gas usage?

2

3 **A.** Tampa Electric's natural gas usage is expected to remain
4 stable in 2021. The strategy of burning economical natural
5 gas in dual-fueled units continues to provide lower
6 overall costs to customers.

7

8 **Q.** What actions does Tampa Electric take to enhance the
9 reliability of its natural gas supply?

10

11 **A.** Tampa Electric maintains natural gas storage capacity
12 with Bay Gas Storage near Mobile, Alabama, and Southern
13 Pines Energy Center in Eastern Mississippi to provide
14 operational flexibility and reliability of natural gas
15 supply. The company reserves 2,000,000 MMBtu of long-term
16 storage capacity in these two locations.

17

18 In addition to storage, Tampa Electric maintains
19 diversified natural gas supply receipt points in FGT Zones
20 1, 2, and 3. Diverse receipt points reduce the company's
21 vulnerability to hurricane impacts and provide access to
22 potentially lower priced gas supply.

23

24 Tampa Electric also reserves capacity on the Southeast
25 Supply Header ("SESH"), Gulf South pipeline ("Gulf

1 South") and Transco's Mobile Bay Lateral ("Transco").
2 SESH, Gulf South and Transco connect the receipt points
3 of FGT, Gulfstream and other Mobile Bay area pipelines
4 with natural gas supply in the mid-continent and
5 northeast. Mid-continent and northeast natural gas
6 production, specifically shale production, has grown and
7 continues to increase. Thus, SESH, Gulf South and Transco
8 capacity give Tampa Electric access to secure,
9 competitively priced onshore gas supply for a portion of
10 its portfolio.

11
12 **Q.** Has Tampa Electric acquired additional natural gas
13 transportation for 2020 and 2021 due to greater use of
14 natural gas?

15
16 **A.** Yes, with the continued low price of natural gas and the
17 company's growing demand for natural gas for electric
18 generation purposes, the company acquires daily,
19 seasonal, and longer-term pipeline capacity to support
20 the company's portfolio of gas-fired generation assets.
21 In 2020, Tampa Electric acquired additional pipeline
22 capacity on Gulf South, which is similar to existing
23 upstream capacity on SESH and Transco. This capacity
24 provides additional diversification of pipelines and gas
25 supply receipt points, access to lower cost onshore supply

1 basins, and minimizes the risk of declining Mobile Bay
2 offshore production. In 2021, Tampa Electric acquired
3 additional Sabal Trail capacity which will enhance
4 reliability, supply, price, and location diversity.

5
6 **Coal Supply Strategy**

7 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's solid fuel usage and
8 procurement strategy.

9
10 **A.** Like its natural gas strategy, Tampa Electric uses a
11 portfolio approach to coal procurement. The steam turbine
12 units at Big Bend Station are designed to burn high-sulfur
13 Illinois Basin coal and are fully scrubbed for sulfur
14 dioxide and nitrogen oxides, and the units have been
15 upgraded to operate on natural gas. Polk Unit 1 can burn
16 a blend of petroleum coke and low sulfur coal, or natural
17 gas. Each plant has varying operational and environmental
18 restrictions and requires solid fuel with custom quality
19 characteristics such as ash content, fusion temperature,
20 sulfur content, heat content, and chlorine content.

21
22 Coal is not a homogenous product. The fuel's chemistry
23 and contents vary based on many factors, including
24 geography. The variability of the product dictates Tampa
25 Electric select its fuel based on multiple parameters.

1 Those parameters include unique coal quality
2 characteristics, price, availability, deliverability, and
3 credit worthiness of the supplier.

4
5 To minimize costs, maintain operational flexibility, and
6 ensure reliable supply, Tampa Electric typically
7 maintains a portfolio of bilateral coal supply contracts
8 with varying term lengths. Tampa Electric monitors the
9 market to obtain the most favorable prices from sources
10 that meet the needs of the generation stations. The use
11 of daily and weekly publications, independent research
12 analyses from industry experts, discussions with
13 suppliers, and coal solicitations aid the company in
14 monitoring the coal market. This market intelligence also
15 helps shape the company's coal procurement strategy to
16 reflect short- and long-term market conditions. Tampa
17 Electric's strategy provides a stable supply of reliable
18 fuel sources. In addition, this strategy allows the
19 company the flexibility to take advantage of favorable
20 spot market opportunities and address operational needs.

21
22 **Q.** Please summarize how Tampa Electric will manage its solid
23 fuel supply contracts through 2021.

24
25 **A.** Since the company is projected to use less coal and more

1 natural gas in 2021 compared to previous years, Tampa
2 Electric will supply the Big Bend and Polk Stations with
3 solid fuel through a combination of existing inventory,
4 short-term contracts and, as necessary, spot purchases in
5 support of the most economic commitment and dispatch for
6 the generation fleet. The short-term and spot purchases
7 allow the company to adjust supply to reflect changing
8 coal quality and quantity needs, operational changes, and
9 pricing opportunities.

10
11 **Coal Transportation**

12 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's solid fuel
13 transportation arrangements.

14
15 **A.** Tampa Electric can receive coal at its Big Bend Station
16 via waterborne or rail delivery. Once delivered to Big
17 Bend Station, solid fuel is consumed onsite, or blended
18 and trucked to Polk Station for consumption in Polk Unit
19 1. As a result of declining solid fuel burns over the
20 last few years, Tampa Electric has transitioned to
21 purchasing delivered coal, where waterborne coal supply
22 and transportation are arranged by the supplier. The
23 complex logistics of procuring quality-specific coal for
24 multiple units is no longer necessary at Tampa Electric
25 as fewer units are burning solid fuel and the projected

1 consumption is declining. Procuring delivered coal
2 continues to provide customers with competitive coal
3 prices through a simplified process. Commodity and
4 transportation of coal by rail is still being arranged
5 separately, as necessary.
6

7 **Q.** Why does the company maintain multiple coal
8 transportation options in its portfolio?
9

10 **A.** Bimodal solid fuel transportation to Big Bend Station
11 affords the company and its customers various benefits.
12 Those benefits include 1) access to more potential coal
13 suppliers, which results in a more competitively priced,
14 and diverse, delivered coal portfolio; 2) the opportunity
15 to switch to either water or rail in the event of a
16 transportation breakdown or interruption on the other
17 mode; and 3) competition among transporters for future
18 solid fuel transportation contracts.
19

20 **Q.** Will Tampa Electric continue to receive coal deliveries
21 via rail in 2020 and 2021?
22

23 **A.** Yes. Tampa Electric expects to receive coal for use at
24 Big Bend Station through the Big Bend rail facility during
25 2020 and is evaluating how much coal to receive by rail

1 in 2021.

2

3 **Q.** Please describe Tampa Electric's expectations regarding
4 waterborne coal deliveries.

5

6 **A.** Tampa Electric expects to receive solid fuel supply from
7 waterborne deliveries to its unloading facilities at Big
8 Bend Station. These deliveries come via the Mississippi
9 River System through United Bulk Terminal or from foreign
10 sources. The ultimate supply source is dependent upon
11 quality, operational needs, and lowest overall delivered
12 cost.

13

14 **Q.** Do you have any other updates to provide regarding Tampa
15 Electric's solid fuel transportation portfolio?

16

17 **A.** The continued trend of an abundant volume of natural gas
18 available at historically low prices results in Tampa
19 Electric's continued use of natural gas in the dual-fueled
20 Big Bend and Polk units. In addition, the company's
21 strategy of utilizing short-term and spot delivered solid
22 fuel purchases allows Tampa Electric to reduce its solid
23 fuel deliveries going forward, which aligns well with the
24 economical use of natural gas. As a result, Tampa Electric
25 will contract for fewer tons of solid fuel supply and

1 transportation in the remainder of 2020 and 2021 than in
2 previous years.

3
4 **Q.** Please describe any other significant factors that Tampa
5 Electric considered in developing its 2021 solid fuel
6 supply portfolio.

7
8 **A.** Tampa Electric continues to place emphasis on flexibility
9 in its solid fuel supply portfolio. The company recognizes
10 that several factors may impact the annual consumption of
11 solid fuel. These factors include the relative price of
12 delivered solid fuel compared to the delivered natural
13 gas and wholesale power markets. Thus, the actual quantity
14 of solid fuel burned may vary significantly each year. In
15 developing its solid fuel portfolio, Tampa Electric
16 strives to balance the need to have reliable solid fuel
17 commodity supplies and transportation while mitigating
18 the potential for significant shortfall penalties if the
19 commodity or transportation is not needed.

20
21 **Q.** Has Tampa Electric reasonably managed its fuel
22 procurement practices for the benefit of its retail
23 customers?

24
25 **A.** Yes, Tampa Electric diligently manages its mix of long-

1 term, intermediate, and short-term purchases of fuel in
2 a manner designed to reduce overall fuel costs while
3 maintaining electric service reliability. The company's
4 fuel activities and transactions are reviewed and audited
5 on a recurring basis by the Commission. In addition, the
6 company monitors its rights under contracts with fuel
7 suppliers to detect and prevent any breach of those
8 rights. Tampa Electric continually strives to improve
9 its knowledge of fuel markets and to take advantage of
10 opportunities to minimize the costs of fuel.

11
12 **Q.** Have there been other changes in the management of Tampa
13 Electric's fuel supply portfolio?

14
15 **A.** Yes, as part of Tampa Electric's 2017 Amended and Restated
16 Stipulation and Settlement Agreement approved by
17 Commission Order No. PSC-2017-0456-S-EI, issued on
18 November 27, 2017 in Docket No. 20170210-EI, Tampa
19 Electric has been operating under an Asset Optimization
20 Mechanism since January 1, 2018. This Optimization
21 Mechanism encourages Tampa Electric to market temporarily
22 unused fuel supply assets to capture cost mitigation
23 benefits for customers. These benefits have come through
24 economic power purchases, economic power sales, resale of
25 unneeded fuel supply, an asset management agreement for

1 natural gas storage, and utilization of natural gas and
2 solid fuel storage and transportation assets.

3
4 **Projected 2021 Fuel Prices**

5 **Q.** How does Tampa Electric project fuel prices?

6
7 **A.** Tampa Electric reviews fuel price forecasts from sources
8 widely used in the industry, including the New York
9 Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX"), PIRA Energy, the Energy
10 Information Administration, and other energy market
11 information sources. Future prices for energy commodities
12 as traded on NYMEX, averaged over five consecutive
13 business days in August 2020, form the basis of the natural
14 gas and No. 2 oil market commodity price forecasts. The
15 price projections for these two commodities are then
16 adjusted to incorporate expected transportation costs and
17 location differences.

18
19 Coal prices and coal transportation prices are projected
20 using contracted pricing and information from industry
21 recognized consultants and published indices, such as IHS
22 Markit and *Coal Daily*. Also, the price projections are
23 specific to the particular quality and mined location of
24 coal utilized by Tampa Electric's Big Bend Station and
25 Polk Unit 1. Final as-burned prices are derived using

1 expected commodity prices and associated transportation
2 costs.

3
4 **Q.** How do the 2021 projected fuel prices compare to the fuel
5 prices projected for 2020 in the company's mid-course
6 correction filing?

7
8 **A.** Large quantities of domestic shale-related production are
9 keeping natural gas prices low. However, though demand
10 impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic further reduced 2020
11 natural gas prices to historically low levels, a rebound
12 is expected in 2021 as demand is expected to outpace
13 supply. Additionally, there is a significant amount of
14 uncertainty associated with the natural gas prices for
15 2021 as a result of the pandemic. The commodity price for
16 natural gas during 2021 is projected to be higher (\$2.88
17 per MMBtu) than the 2020 price (\$2.05 per MMBtu) projected
18 in the company's mid-course correction fuel filing. The
19 2021 coal commodity price projection is slightly higher
20 (\$41.03 per ton) than the price projected for 2020 (\$39.52
21 per ton) during preparation of the 2020 mid-course
22 correction fuel clause factors. International demand for
23 coal is elevating coal prices despite minimal domestic
24 demand.

25 **Q.** Does this conclude your direct testimony?

1 **A.** Yes, it does.

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1 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of Debra
2 M. Dobiac was inserted.)

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1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**
2 **COMMISSION STAFF**
3 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DEBRA DOBIAC**
4 **DOCKET NO. 20200001-EI**
5 **SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**
6
7 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**
8 A. My name is Debra M. Dobiac. My business address is 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard,
9 Tallahassee, Florida, 32399.
10 **Q. By whom are you presently employed and in what capacity?**
11 A. I am employed by the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC or Commission) as a
12 Public Utility Analyst in the Office of Auditing and Performance Analysis. I have been
13 employed by the Commission since January 2008.
14 **Q. Briefly review your educational and professional background.**
15 A. I graduated with honors from Lakeland College in 1993 and have a Bachelor of Arts
16 degree in accounting. Prior to my work at the Commission, I worked for six years in internal
17 auditing at the Kohler Company and First American Title Insurance Company. I also have
18 approximately 12 years of experience as an accounting manager and controller.
19 **Q. Please describe your current responsibilities.**
20 A. My responsibilities consist of planning and conducting utility audits of manual and
21 automated accounting systems for historical and forecasted data.
22 **Q. Have you previously presented testimony before this Commission?**
23 A. Yes. I testified in the Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. Rate Case, Docket No. 20080121-
24 WS, the Water Management Services, Inc. Rate Case, Docket No. 20110200-WU, and the
25 Utilities, Inc. of Florida Rate Case, Docket No. 20160101-WS. I also provided testimony for

1 the Water Management Services, Inc. Rate Case, Docket No. 20100104-WU, the Gulf Power
2 Company Rate Cases, Docket Nos. 20110138-EI and 20130140-EI, the Fuel and Purchased
3 Power Recovery Clause (Hedging Activities) for Gulf Power Company, Docket Nos.
4 20130001-EI, 20140001-EI, and 20190001-EI, the Fuel and Purchased Power Recovery
5 Clause (Hedging Activities) for Florida Power & Light Company, Docket No. 20180001-EI,
6 Florida Public Utilities Company's Limited Proceeding to recover incremental Storm
7 Restoration Costs, Docket No. 20180061-EI, the Gulf Power Company Limited Proceeding to
8 recover incremental Storm Restoration Costs, Docket No. 20190038-EI, and the Florida
9 Public Utilities Company's Petition for a Limited Proceeding to recover incremental Storm
10 Restoration Costs, Capital Costs, Revenue Reduction for Permanently Lost Customers, and
11 Regulatory Assets Related to Hurricane Michael in Docket No. 20190156-EI.

12 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony today?**

13 A. The purpose of my testimony is to sponsor the staff auditor's report of Gulf Power
14 Company (Gulf or Utility) which addresses the Utility's filing in Docket No. 20200001-EI,
15 Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause, for costs associated with its hedging
16 activities. We issued an auditor's report in this docket for the hedging activities on September
17 1, 2020. This report is filed with my testimony and is identified as Exhibit DMD-1.

18 **Q. Was this audit prepared by you or under your direction?**

19 A. Yes, it was prepared by me.

20 **Q. Please describe the work you performed in this audit.**

21 A. I have separated the audit work into several categories.

22 Accounting Treatment

23 We obtained Gulf's supporting detail of the hedging settlements for the twelve months
24 ended July 31, 2020. The support documentation was traced to the general ledger transaction
25 detail. We verified that the hedging settlements are in compliance with the Risk Management

1 Plan and verified that the accounting treatment for hedging transactions and transactions costs
2 is consistent with Commission orders relating to hedging activities. The Utility did not enter
3 into any new contracts between August 1, 2019 and July 31, 2020. Gulf's hedging program
4 was completed in the first quarter of 2020. No exceptions were noted.

5 Gains and Losses

6 We traced the monthly balances of all hedging transactions from Gulf's Hedging
7 Information Reports to its settlement report and its general ledger for the period August 1,
8 2019 to July 31, 2020. We reviewed existing tolling agreements whereby the Utility's natural
9 gas is provided to generators under purchased power agreements. We recalculated the gains
10 and losses, traced the price to the settlement statement details, and compared the price to the
11 gas futures rates published by the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) Henry Hub Gas
12 futures contract rates. We compared these recalculated gains and losses with Gulf's journal
13 entries for realized gains and losses. No exceptions were noted.

14 Hedged Volume and Limits

15 We reviewed the quantity limits and authorizations. We also obtained GPC's analysis
16 of the monthly percent of natural gas hedged in relation to natural gas burned for the twelve
17 months ended July 31, 2020, and compared them with the Utility's 2016 Risk Management
18 Plan. No exceptions were noted.

19 Separation of Duties

20 We reviewed the Utility's procedures for separating duties related to hedging
21 activities. We noted that as of January 1, 2019, all hedges outstanding were transferred to
22 NextEra/FPL and they oversee the settling of the remaining hedges. There were no internal
23 and external audits specifically performed on the separation of duties related to hedging
24 activities. No exceptions were noted.

25 **Q. Please review the audit findings in this report.**

1 A. There were no findings in this audit.

2 **Q. Does that conclude your testimony?**

3 A. Yes.

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1 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Exhibits.

2 MS. BROWNLESS: Yes, sir.

3 Staff has compiled a stipulated Composite
4 Exhibit List, which includes the prefiled exhibits
5 attached to the witness' testimony as well as
6 Staff's Exhibits 48 through 52. The list has been
7 provided to the parties, to the Commissioners and
8 the court reporter.

9 At this time, Staff requests that the
10 Comprehensive Exhibit List be marked for
11 identification purposes as Exhibit No. 1, and that
12 the other exhibits be marked for identification as
13 set forth in the Comprehensive Exhibit List.

14 CHAIRMAN CLARK: The orders are so marked.

15 (Whereupon, Exhibit Nos. 1 - 52 were marked
16 for identification.)

17 MS. BROWNLESS: Thank you.

18 We would ask that the Comprehensive Exhibit
19 List, marked as Exhibit No. 1, be entered into the
20 record.

21 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Exhibit No. 1 is entered.

22 (Whereupon, Exhibit No. 1 was received into
23 evidence.)

24 MS. BROWNLESS: At this time, we would request
25 that Stipulated Staff Exhibits Nos. 48 through 52

1 be entered into the record.

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: So ordered.

3 (Whereupon, Exhibit Nos. 48 - 52 were received
4 into evidence.)

5 MS. BROWNLESS: And we would also ask that the
6 exhibits that were agreed to by the parties,
7 Exhibits Nos. 8 through 47, be entered into the
8 record.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Is there any
10 objection to 8 through 47? Any objection to those
11 exhibits?

12 Seeing none, so ordered.

13 (Whereupon, Exhibit Nos. 8 - 47 were received
14 into evidence.)

15 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Mr. Chairman, before we
16 move into opening statements, I did have a question
17 regarding one of the preliminary matters that Ms.
18 Brownless mentioned, if this would be an
19 appropriate time.

20 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, Commissioner Brown.

21 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.

22 Ms. Brownless, you said that yesterday Duke
23 filed an appeal and motion to stay the Commission's
24 order adopting Judge Stevenson's Recommended Order
25 regarding Bartow Unit 4, replacement costs. How --

1 and then you also stated that the motion will be
2 dealt with at the Commission's December 1st agenda
3 conference.

4 How does that affect our proceedings today?
5 And if so, what issues are affected, and what are
6 the limitations regarding -- surrounding this
7 motion?

8 MS. BROWNLESS: Yes, ma'am.

9 The reason that it will be dealt with at the
10 December 1st agenda is because, of course, the
11 Office of Public Counsel and other intervenors have
12 the opportunity to file written responses to Duke's
13 motion for stay, and have indicated that they wish
14 to do so.

15 The consideration at the December 1st agenda
16 is appropriate because this is a full panel item,
17 and so this type of decision should be made by the
18 full panel.

19 The resolution of that issue will affect
20 Duke's Issue No. 1A, which was a contested issue
21 included in this docket at the prehearing
22 conference.

23 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you for specifying
24 the issues.

25 So then what are the limitations regarding

1 questioning the witness on Issue 1A today?

2 MS. BROWNLESS: At this time, it is our
3 position that the intervenors should be allowed to
4 question Mr. Menendez on Issue 1A, because,
5 obviously, we don't know the outcome of our
6 decision on December 1st.

7 CHAIRMAN CLARK: It's still testimony. That
8 doesn't --

9 MS. BROWNLESS: It's testimony. Just go ahead
10 and, to the extent that any party wishes to
11 question Mr. Menendez, which my understanding is
12 Public Counsel does, and that would be regarding
13 Issue 1A, is my understanding, then that's
14 appropriate at this time.

15 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you for the
16 clarification. And it looks like Mr. Rehwinkel is
17 up.

18 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Rehwinkel, do you have a
19 question?

20 MR. REHWINKEL: I just -- if I may, I would
21 like to respond to the Commissioner's question if
22 you deem that appropriate.

23 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Sure, Commissioner Brown,
24 yes.

25 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes. What Ms. Brownless said

1 is correct. We have until Monday to respond, and
2 we intend to respond to the motion to stay.

3 We believe Issue 1A and Issue 11 are impacted
4 by this -- the Bartow order and its treatment in
5 the clause. So we -- you know, our intention to
6 ask questions is not only to 1A, but to 11. And of
7 course, there is a domino effect throughout, which
8 is why Ms. Brownless indicated there are no Type 2
9 stipulations for Duke, since there is a flow of the
10 impact of these issues throughout the roll-up to
11 the factor. So that's why, and we intend to
12 inquire about that, but we will -- I will address
13 that briefly in my opening.

14 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.

15 Mr. Chairman, if Duke wants to respond as
16 well, I am open to that if you are.

17 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Certainly.

18 Duke, would you like to respond, Mr. Bernier?

19 MR. BERNIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And
20 thank you, Commissioner Brown, for the opportunity
21 to respond.

22 We do believe that the issues that have been
23 identified by OPC, 1A and 11 and the associated
24 fallout issues, are the issues that are being
25 impacted by our motion for stay.

1 I would disagree that we need to hear
2 testimony at this point. I believe it's a legal
3 issue that the Commission is going to hear on
4 December 1st. But I understand everybody's
5 position, and the desire to fill out the record, so
6 we won't object to live testimony on the point, but
7 I will cover a little bit of that in my opening as
8 well.

9 So thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Bernier.

11 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Commissioner
13 Brown, for that clarification.

14 Okay. We are going to move into opening
15 statements. I assume that most of the parties are
16 going to want to make an opening statement. I
17 would like to remind you that you are limited to
18 five minutes per party.

19 The order that we are going to go in is Duke,
20 then FPL, FIPUG, Gulf, TECO, OPC, FIPUG and then
21 PCS Phosphate.

22 So we will begin with you, Mr. Bernier.

23 MS. BROWNLESS: Excuse me, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN CLARK: I am sorry, Ms. Brownless.

25 MS. BROWNLESS: It should be, Duke, FPL, FPUC,

1 Gulf, TECO.

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: You are correct. FPUC.

3 All right. Mr. Bernier, you are recognized.

4 MR. BERNIER: Thank you again, Mr. Chairman.

5 Good morning again, Commissioners.

6 As we have just kind of discussed, the issues
7 left for DEF is Issue 1A and the associated fallout
8 issues.

9 Issue 1A asks: What action should be taken in
10 response to the Commission Order No. 2020-0368
11 regarding the Bartow Unit 4 February 2017 outage?

12 DEF's position is that no action is
13 appropriate at this time. The referenced order was
14 issued on October 15th, 2020, roughly a
15 month-and-a-half after DEF and the other companies
16 filed their 2021 projection filings along with the
17 proposed 2021 fuel factors. Because DEF had not
18 yet received the order and had an opportunity to
19 review prior to making the 2021 projection filing,
20 the refund was not included therein. For this
21 reason alone, the refund would have been premature.

22 However, as we have just discussed, yesterday
23 DEF filed a notice of appeal, and along with a
24 motion to day the Bartow order pending a public
25 review in accordance with the Commission's rule

1 25-22.061. I understand that the motion will be
2 taken up at the December 1st Agenda Conference, but
3 DEF believes the Commission's rule is clear on its
4 face, that in this situation, DEF is entitled to a
5 stay as a matter of right.

6 If granted, the stay would effectively
7 determine Issue 1A and the associated fallout
8 issues until appeal is decided, but certainly for
9 this year's docket. Mr. Menendez is here to answer
10 questions.

11 I would just caution everyone, as we know, the
12 Bartow proceeding was sent over to DOAH due to the
13 high amount of confidential information. I
14 understand Public Counsel has indicated the desire
15 to ask questions referencing the order, so I would
16 just bear -- ask the Commission's patience as we go
17 through that question and answer process, and
18 caution Mr. Menendez again to make sure he doesn't
19 state any confidential out loud.

20 With that, thank you very much.

21 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Bernier.

22 Ms. Moncada.

23 MS. MONCADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and

25 Commissioners. I appreciate the opportunity to

1 present opening remarks on behalf of FPL.

2 As Ms. Brownless pointed out, most of FPL's
3 issues have been stipulated. Ms. Brownless and
4 rest of your staff, along with the prehearing
5 officer, Commissioner Fay, have all done an
6 excellent job of getting us all to this point. The
7 only issues that haven't been stipulated are Issues
8 2F, 2G, and the issues that are impacted by the
9 outcome of those two.

10 Issue 2F asks: Has FPL made reasonable and
11 prudent adjustments, if any are needed, to account
12 for replacement power costs associated with the
13 April 2019 forced outage at St. Lucie Nuclear Power
14 Plant, Unit No. 1.

15 And Issue 2G asks the same question with
16 respect to a March 2020 return-to-service delay at
17 St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 2.

18 It is FPL's position that no adjustments are
19 necessary because FPL acted prudently in the
20 circumstances that led to the two events in
21 question.

22 Here today to testify before you on those two
23 issues is Robert Coffey, a Vice-President in the
24 Nuclear Business Unit with 38 years of experience
25 in the industry. The first 20 of those years being

1 his time with the United States Navy Nuclear
2 Submarine Force.

3 The April 2019 outage that is the subject of
4 Issue 2F involves a generator ground fault at St.
5 Lucie Unit 1 that was attributed to an insulation
6 fault located in a stator bar.

7 While FPL's investigation could not
8 definitively confirm the cause, FPL determined that
9 the mechanism that produced the fault was
10 introduced in the stator during a generator rewind
11 performed by Siemens in 2012, and that the
12 condition thereafter degraded in the insulation
13 gradually over the unit's seven years in service.

14 Our investigation ruled out many potential
15 causes, but three possibilities were neither
16 refuted nor adequately supported.

17 The first is a ferromagnetic particle
18 introduced during installation. This is also
19 referred to at times as a magnetic turbine.

20 The second is impact that might have occurred
21 during handling or installation of the stator bar
22 or, finally, a contaminant might have been
23 introduced in the stator bar during manufacture or
24 construction.

25 The reason the possible causes all point back

1 to the 2012 rewind is the location of the fault,
2 which appeared beneath banding material that was
3 applied in 2012. If the mechanism causing the
4 impact or damage to the bar had occurred after the
5 2012 rewind, then the banding material would also
6 have been damaged, but here, the banding remained
7 intact.

8 FPL and Siemens followed established industry
9 standards during the 2012 rewind for insulation
10 testing, for acceptance and quality assurance. And
11 following the 2012 rewind, FPL performed
12 inspections pursuant to standard industry practice
13 and manufacturer recommendations.

14 After the ground fault occurred and prompted
15 the unit to shut down, FPL determined the proper
16 course of action was to perform a full rewind.
17 This was conducted safely, and the unit was
18 returned to service quickly.

19 Issue 2G involves a two-day return-to-service
20 delay at St. Lucie Unit 2. This occurred during a
21 scheduled refueling outage where FPL had planned to
22 replace electrical switchgear that was required for
23 plant operations. While implementing that
24 replacement, a configuration conflict was
25 discovered. FPL resolved the conflict, no further

1 corrective actions were required, and FPL's
2 response was appropriate, efficient, and the unit
3 was returned to service safely.

4 Again, thank you for the opportunity to
5 present this opening statement.

6 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Moncada.
7 Ms. Keating, FPUC.

8 MS. KEATING: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
9 Commissioners.

10 As you know, the issues pertaining to FPUC
11 have all been stipulated, so I will happily waive
12 my opportunity to make an opening statement.

13 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Okay. Thank you very much.
14 Moving to Gulf.

15 MS. MONCADA: Gulf waives as well.
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN CLARK: TECO.

18 MR. MEANS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. All
19 of the issues for Tampa Electric have been
20 stipulated and all of our witnesses have been
21 excused, so I will just thank staff for their hard
22 work on this docket, and also thank the prehearing
23 officer for bringing these stipulations before you
24 today, and other than that, I will waive my opening
25 statement.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you very much.

3 OPC. Mr. Rehwinkel, are you waiving?

4 MR. REHWINKEL: No, I have brief remarks to
5 make.

6 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Go right ahead, sir.

7 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 The Public Counsel objects to Duke Energy
9 Florida's failure to return the \$16.1 million in
10 over-collections related to its imprudent operation
11 of Bartow Unit 4.

12 Regardless of any appeal taken, the Public
13 Counsel's position is that the accounting true-up
14 process inherent in the ongoing fuel recovery
15 process is not subject to the provisions of rule
16 25-22.061.

17 On November 9th, we will address the legal
18 arguments in response to the motion to stay filed
19 yesterday by Duke. This motion depends for its
20 resolution on facts, policy and issues of law that
21 you will hear today.

22 With respect to FPL, the OPC's position in
23 this portion of the hearing is adequately presented
24 in the prehearing order in our statement on the St.
25 Lucie issue.

1 This case is all about FPL's burden of proof.
2 They have clearly not met the burden of proof
3 regarding the \$18 million in replacement costs, and
4 at least \$29 million of repair costs that are not
5 at issue at this hearing but are directly related
6 to the events that you will hear about today.

7 I look forward to cross-examining Mr. Coffey
8 on this issue, but again, it is not the customers,
9 the Public Counsel's or any intervenors'
10 responsibility or burden to make a case or
11 demonstrate imprudence. It is the company's
12 obligation and duty under the law to demonstrate
13 prudence.

14 Thank you, Commissioners.

15 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Rehwinkel.

16 Ms. Putnal, FIPUG.

17 MS. PUTNAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. FIPUG
18 will waive its opening statement.

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Thank you very
20 much.

21 Mr. Brew, PCS Phosphate.

22 MR. BREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very
23 briefly.

24 We would agree with what Mr. Rehwinkel simply
25 said, so I won't repeat it. We consider the fuel

1 clause to be a reconciliation mechanism that
2 involves all kinds of adjustments, and based on the
3 October 15th final order, we believe that the -- an
4 adjustment should be made to reflect the purposes
5 of that order, notwithstanding the notice of
6 appeal.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Brew.

9 All right. Did I get everyone?

10 All right. Let's move into the stipulated
11 issues and take those first.

12 Ms. Brownless.

13 MS. BROWNLESS: Yes, sir.

14 The Type 2 stipulations for Florida Power &
15 Light are: 2A 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2H, 6, 7, 11, 16,
16 17, 19, 21, 24A, 24B and 27 through 36.

17 The stipulated issues for FPUC are: 3A, 8, 9,
18 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 35 and 36.

19 The stipulated issues for Gulf are: 4A, 6, 7,
20 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 through 19, 20 through 22, 27
21 through 33, and 34 through 36.

22 And finally, the stipulated issues for TECO
23 are: 5A, 6 through 11, 16 through 22, 27 through
24 33, and 34 through 36.

25 We would request a bench decision on these

1 issues, and the staff is available to answer
2 questions.

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Commissioners, do
4 you have any questions for the staff on any of the
5 stipulated issues?

6 Seeing none, I will entertain a motion to
7 approve the stipulated issues.

8 COMMISSIONER FAY: Mr. Chairman -- go ahead,
9 Commissioner Brown.

10 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Go ahead.

11 COMMISSIONER FAY: Mr. Chairman --

12 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Commissioner Fay.

13 COMMISSIONER FAY: Yeah, I would -- I would
14 move for approval of all Type 2 stipulations as
15 stated. I don't think I need to repeat each one of
16 those for the record.

17 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Oh, go ahead.

18 COMMISSIONER BROWN: No.

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: We've got them. We've got
20 them listed.

21 All right. Commissioner Fay made a motion.
22 Commissioner Brown seconded the motion.

23 Is there any questions or discussion?

24 On the motion, all in favor say aye.

25 (Chorus of ayes.)

1 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: The motion carries.

4 All right. Let's begin with our witnesses
5 now. We will move into this particular part of our
6 hearing today.

7 I understand that the order of the witnesses
8 testifying today are going to be Mr. Menendez on
9 behalf of Duke Energy, and Mr. Robert Coffey on
10 behalf of FPL, the first two witnesses that we are
11 going to take.

12 I am going to remind the witnesses that their
13 summaries are going to be limited to three minutes
14 each, and I will swear each witness in prior to
15 them taking the stand, and so we will begin with
16 Mr. -- Mr. Bernier.

17 MR. BERNIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Duke Energy calls Chris Menendez to the stand,
19 as it were.

20 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Menendez, would you raise
21 your right hand and repeat after me?

22 Whereupon,

23 CHRISTOPHER A. MENENDEZ

24 was called as a witness, having been first duly sworn to
25 speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the

1 truth, was examined and testified as follows:

2 THE WITNESS: I do, sir.

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Mr. Bernier.

4 MR. BERNIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. BERNIER:

7 Q Good morning. Will you please introduce
8 yourself to the Commission?

9 A Good morning, Commissioners. My name is
10 Christopher Menendez. My business address is 2991st
11 Avenue North, in St. Petersburg, Florida, 33701.

12 Q Thank you.
13 And you agree you have just been sworn in,
14 correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Thank you.
17 Who do you work for, and what is your
18 position?

19 A I am employed by Duke Energy Florida as the
20 Rates and Regulatory Strategy Director.

21 Q Thank you.
22 And on March 2nd, 2020, did you file direct
23 testimony and exhibits in this proceeding?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And on July 27th, 2020, did you file direct

1 **testimony and exhibits in this proceeding?**

2 A Yes.

3 **Q And finally, on September 3rd, 2020, did you**
4 **file direct testimony and exhibits in this proceeding?**

5 A Yes.

6 **Q And do you have those with you today?**

7 A I do.

8 **Q Thank you.**

9 **And do you have any changes to make to your**
10 **prefiled testimony?**

11 A Yes, though these revisions have previously
12 been filed with the Clerk. On May 12th, 2020, I filed a
13 revised Exhibit, CAM-3T, identified as Exhibit No. 4 on
14 staff's comprehensive exhibit list. On September 2nd,
15 2020, I filed revised 2020 actual estimated testimony
16 along with a revised CAM-2, which is Exhibit No. 6 on
17 staff's comprehensive exhibit list. And on September
18 30th, 2020, I filed a revised CAM-3, which is Exhibit
19 No. 7 on staff's comprehensive exhibit list.

20 **Q Okay. Thank you.**

21 **And with those revisions, if I was to ask you**
22 **the same questions that are in your prefiled testimony**
23 **today, would you give the same answers that are**
24 **contained therein?**

25 A Yes.

1 **Q Thank you.**

2 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Chairman, we will waive a
3 witness summary.

4 I would just once again remind Mr. Menendez to
5 refrain from stating out loud any confidential
6 information. And with that, we would tender Mr.
7 Menendez for cross-examination.

8 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Thank you, Mr.
9 Bernier.

10 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of
11 Christopher A. Menendez was inserted.)

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DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC**DOCKET No. 20200001-EI****Fuel and Capacity Cost Recovery
Actual True-Up for the Period
January 2019 - December 2019****DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
Christopher A. Menendez****March 2, 2020**

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Christopher A. Menendez. My business address is 299 First
3 Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701.

4

5 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6 A. I am employed by Duke Energy Florida, LLC (“DEF” or the “Company”), as
7 Rates and Regulatory Strategy Director.

8

9 **Q. What are your responsibilities in that position?**

10 A. I am responsible for regulatory planning and cost recovery for DEF as well as
11 Open Access Transmission Tariff (“OATT”) filings with the Federal Energy
12 Regulatory Commission (“FERC”). These responsibilities include
13 completion of regulatory financial reports and analysis of state, federal and
14 local regulations and their impacts on DEF. In this capacity, I am responsible
15 for DEF’s Final True-Up, Actual/Estimated Projection and Projection Filings
16 in the Fuel Adjustment Clause, Capacity Cost Recovery Clause and
17 Environmental Cost Recovery Clause.

18

1 **Q. Please describe your educational background and professional**
2 **experience.**

3 A. I joined the Company on April 7, 2008 as a Senior Financial Specialist in
4 the Florida Planning & Strategy group. In that capacity, I supported the
5 development of long-term financial forecasts and the development of
6 current-year monthly earnings and cash flow projections. In 2011, I
7 accepted a position as a Senior Business Financial Analyst in the Power
8 Generation Florida Finance organization. In that capacity, I provided
9 accounting and financial analysis support to various generation facilities in
10 DEF's Fossil fleet. In 2013, I accepted a position as a Senior Regulatory
11 Specialist. In that capacity, I supported the preparation of testimony and
12 exhibits for the Fuel Docket as well as other Commission Dockets. In
13 October 2014, I was promoted to Rates and Regulatory Strategy Manager,
14 and in February 2020, I was promoted to my current position. Prior to
15 working at DEF, I was the Manager of Inventory Accounting and Control
16 for North American Operations at Cott Beverages. In this role, I was
17 responsible for inventory-related accounting and inventory control
18 functions for Cott-owned manufacturing plants in the United States and
19 Canada. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the
20 University of South Florida, and I am a Certified Public Accountant in the
21 State of Florida.

22

23

1 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

2 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide DEF's Fuel Adjustment Clause
3 final true-up amount for the period of January 2019 through December 2019,
4 and DEF's Capacity Cost Recovery Clause final true-up amount for the same
5 period.

6

7 **Q. Have you prepared exhibits to your testimony?**

8 A. Yes, I have prepared and attached to my true-up testimony as Exhibit No.
9 ____(CAM-1T), a Fuel Adjustment Clause true-up calculation and related
10 schedules; Exhibit No. ____(CAM-2T), a Capacity Cost Recovery Clause true-
11 up calculation and related schedules; Exhibit No. ____(CAM-3T), Schedules A1
12 through A3, A6, and A12 for December 2019, year-to-date; and Exhibit No.
13 ____(CAM-4T), with DEF's capital structure and cost rates. Schedules A1
14 through A9, and A12 for the year ended December 31, 2019, were filed with
15 the Commission on January 23, 2020.

16

17 **Q. What is the source of the data that you will present by way of testimony**
18 **or exhibits in this proceeding?**

19 A. Unless otherwise indicated, the actual data is taken from the books and
20 records of the Company. The books and records are kept in the regular
21 course of business in accordance with generally accepted accounting
22 principles and practices, and provisions of the Uniform System of Accounts

1 as prescribed by this Commission. The Company relies on the information
2 included in this testimony in the conduct of its affairs.

3

4 **Q. Would you please summarize your testimony?**

5 A. Per Order No. PSC-2019-0484-FOF-EI, the estimated 2019 fuel adjustment
6 true-up amount was an under-recovery of \$14.5 million. The actual under-
7 recovery for 2019 was \$36.0 million resulting in a final fuel adjustment true-
8 up under-recovery amount of \$21.5 million. Exhibit No. ____(CAM-1T).

9

10 The estimated 2019 capacity cost recovery true-up amount was an over-
11 recovery of \$1.9 million. The actual amount for 2019 was an over-recovery
12 of \$1.1 million resulting in a final capacity true-up under-recovery amount of
13 \$0.8 million. Exhibit No. ____(CAM-2T).

14

15 **FUEL COST RECOVERY**

16 **Q. What is DEF's jurisdictional ending balance as of December 31, 2019**
17 **for fuel cost recovery?**

18 A. The actual ending balance as of December 31, 2019 for true-up purposes is
19 an under-recovery of \$35,997,914.

20

21 **Q. How does this amount compare to DEF's estimated 2019 ending**
22 **balance included in the Company's Actual/Estimated Filing?**

1 A. The actual true-up amount attributable to the January 2019 - December 2019
2 period is an under-recovery of \$35,997,914 which is \$21,535,230 higher than
3 the re-projected year end under-recovery balance of \$14,462,684.

4

5 **Q. How was the final true-up ending balance determined?**

6 A. The amount was determined in the manner set forth on Schedule A2 of the
7 Commission's standard forms previously submitted by the Company on a
8 monthly basis.

9

10 **Q. What factors contributed to the period-ending jurisdictional net under-**
11 **recovery of \$21,535,230 shown on your Exhibit No. __ (CAM-1T)?**

12 A. The \$21.5 million is driven primarily by approximately \$16.8 million higher
13 fuel and purchased power costs due to approximately \$9.1 million of
14 increased purchased power costs, approximately \$3.9 million of coal
15 inventory adjustments from semi-annual aerial surveys, and approximately
16 \$1.9 million to adjust coal inventory for the retirement of Crystal River Units
17 1&2.

18

19 **Q. Please explain the components shown on Exhibit No. __ (CAM-1T),**
20 **sheet 6 of 6, which helps to explain the \$11.2 million unfavorable**
21 **system variance from the projected cost of fuel and net purchased**
22 **power transactions.**

1 A. Exhibit No. __ (CAM-1T), sheet 6 of 6 is an analysis of the system dollar
2 variance for each energy source in terms of three interrelated components;
3 (1) changes in the amount (mWh's) of energy required; (2) changes in the
4 heat rate of generated energy (BTU's per kWh); and (3) changes in the
5 unit price of either fuel consumed for generation (\$ per million BTU) or energy
6 purchases and sales (cents per kWh). The \$11.2 million unfavorable system
7 variance is mainly attributable to increased firm purchases, partially offset by
8 lower Qualifying Facilities (cogeneration) costs.

9
10 **Q. Does this period ending true-up balance include any noteworthy**
11 **adjustments to fuel expense?**

12 A. Yes. Noteworthy adjustments are shown on Exhibit No. __ (CAM-3T) in the
13 footnote to line 6b on page 1 of 2, Schedule A2.

14
15 Consistent with Order No. PSC-2018-0240-PAA-EQ dated June 8, 2018,
16 DEF included an adjustment of approximately \$14.1 million (grossed up to
17 approximately \$14.2 million from retail to system) for amortization of the
18 Florida Power Development, LLC ("FPD") qualifying facility regulatory asset.
19 This adjustment is shown on Exhibit No. __ (CAM-3T), in the footnotes to
20 Line 6b on page 1 of 2, Schedule A2, and on line 3, page 1 of 2, Schedule
21 A1. An estimated adjustment of approximately \$14.2 million (grossed up to
22 approximately \$14.3 million from retail to system) for FPD regulatory asset
23 amortization was included on Schedule E1-B (sheet 2), line A5, columns Jan

1 Actual through Dec Estimated in the 2019 Actual/Estimated Filing on July 26,
2 2019.

3

4 The ending true-up balance also includes an approximate \$1.9 million coal
5 inventory adjustment for the retirement of Crystal River Units 1&2.

6

7 **Q. Did DEF make an adjustment for changes in coal inventory based on an**
8 **Aerial Survey?**

9 A. Yes. DEF included an adjustment of approximately \$3.9 million to coal
10 inventory attributable to the semi-annual aerial surveys conducted on May
11 15, 2019 and October 14, 2019 in accordance with Docket No. 19970001-EI,
12 Order No. PSC-1997-0359-FOF-EI. This adjustment represents 2.42% of
13 the total coal consumed at the Crystal River facility in 2019.

14

15 **Q. Did DEF exceed the economy sales threshold in 2019?**

16 A. Yes. DEF did exceed the gain on economy sales threshold of \$1.3 million in
17 2019. As reported on Schedule A1-2, Line 11a, the gain for the year-to-date
18 period through December 2019 was approximately \$1.7 million. Consistent
19 with Order No. PSC-01-2371-FOF-EI, shareholders retain 20% of the gain in
20 excess of the three-year rolling average. For 2019, that amount is
21 approximately \$0.06 million.

22

1 **Q. Has the three-year rolling average gain on economy sales included in**
 2 **the Company's filing for the November 2019 hearings been updated to**
 3 **incorporate actual data for all of year 2019?**

4 A. Yes. DEF has calculated its three-year rolling average gain on economy
 5 sales, based entirely on actual data for calendar years 2017 through 2019,
 6 as follows:

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Actual Gain</u>
	2016	\$ 887,370
	2017	\$ 2,269,916
	2018	<u>\$ 1,649,135</u>
Three-Year Average		<u>\$1,602,140</u>

12

13 **CAPACITY COST RECOVERY**

14

15 **Q. What is the Company's jurisdictional ending balance as of December**
 16 **31, 2019 for capacity cost recovery?**

17 A. The actual ending balance as of December 31, 2019 for true-up purposes is
 18 an over-recovery of \$1,050,730.

19

20 **Q. How does this amount compare to the estimated 2019 ending balance**
 21 **included in the Company's Actual/Estimated Filing?**

1 A. When the estimated 2019 over-recovery of \$1,848,509 is compared to the
2 \$1,050,730 actual over-recovery, the final capacity true-up for the twelve-
3 month period ended December 2019 is an under-recovery of \$797,779.

4

5 **Q. Is this true-up calculation consistent with the true-up methodology**
6 **used for the other cost recovery clauses?**

7 A. Yes. The calculation of the final net true-up amount follows the procedures
8 established by the Commission in Order No. PSC-1996-1172-FOF-EI. The
9 true-up amount was determined in the manner set forth on the Commission's
10 standard forms previously submitted by the Company on a monthly basis.

11

12 **Q. What factors contributed to the actual period-end capacity under-**
13 **recovery of \$0.8 million?**

14 A. Exhibit No. __ (CAM-2T, sheet 1 of 3) compares actual results to the original
15 projection for the period. The \$0.8 million under-recovery is primarily due to
16 slightly lower mWh sales.

17

18 **Q. Does this conclude your direct true-up testimony?**

19 A. Yes.

20

21

22

23

1 **DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC**

2 **DOCKET No. 20200001-EI**

3 **Fuel and Capacity Cost Recovery**
4 **Actual/Estimated True-Up Amounts**
5 **January 2020 through December 2020**

6 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**
7 **Christopher A. Menendez**

8 **September 2, 2020**

9 **REVISED**

10
11 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

12 A. My name is Christopher A. Menendez. My business address is 299 1st
13 Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701.

14
15 **Q. Have you previously filed testimony before this Commission in**
16 **Docket No. 20200001-EI?**

17 A. Yes. I provided direct testimony on March 2, 2020.

18
19 **Q: Has your job description, education, background and professional**
20 **experience changed since that time?**

21 A. No.

22
23 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

24 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present for Commission approval the
25 actual/estimated fuel and capacity cost recovery true-up amounts of Duke

1 Energy Florida, LLC ("DEF" or the "Company") for the period of January
2 through December 2020.

3
4 **Q. Do you have an exhibit to your testimony?**

5 A. Yes. I have prepared Exhibit No. __ (CAM-2), which is attached to my
6 prepared testimony, consisting of two parts. Part 1 consists of Schedules
7 E1-B through E9, which include the calculation of the 2020
8 actual/estimated fuel and purchased power true-up balance, and a
9 schedule to support the capital structure components and cost rates relied
10 upon to calculate the return requirements on all capital projects recovered
11 through the fuel clause as required per Order No. PSC-2020-0041-PCO-
12 EI. Part 2 consists of Schedules E12-A through E12-C, which include the
13 calculation of the 2020 actual/estimated capacity true-up balance. The
14 calculations in my exhibit are based on actual data from January through
15 June 2020 and estimated data from July through December 2020.

16
17 **FUEL COST RECOVERY**

18
19 **Q. What is the amount of DEF's 2020 estimated fuel true-up balance and
20 how was it developed?**

21 A. DEF's estimated fuel true-up balance is an over-recovery of \$61,083,424.
22 The calculation begins with the actual under-recovered balance of
23 \$33,527,567 taken from Schedule A2, page 2 of 2, line 13, for the month
24 of June 2020. This balance plus the estimated July through December

1 2020 monthly true-up calculations comprise the estimated \$61,083,424
2 over-recovered balance at year-end. The projected December 2020 true-
3 up balance includes interest which is estimated from July through
4 December 2020 based on the average of the beginning and ending
5 commercial paper rate applied in June. That rate is 0.8% per month.
6

7 **Q. How does the current forecast of fuel costs on Schedule E3 for July**
8 **through December 2020 compare with the same period forecast used**
9 **in the Company's Midcourse Correction approved in Order No. PSC-**
10 **2020-0154-PCO-EI?**

11 A. Light oil and natural gas decreased \$10.96/mmbtu (-35%) and
12 \$0.36/mmbtu (-10%), respectively. Coal increased \$0.13/mmbtu (4%).
13

14 **Q. Have any adjustments been made to estimated fuel costs for the**
15 **period January through December 2020?**

16 A. Yes. Consistent with Order No. PSC-2018-0240-PAA-EQ dated June 8,
17 2018, DEF included an adjustment of approximately \$13.5 million (grossed
18 up to approximately \$13.6 million from retail to system) for the amortization
19 of Florida Power Development, LLC qualifying facility regulatory asset
20 from January 2020 through December 2020 partially offset by an
21 approximate \$13.3 million system (\$13.2 million retail) credit related to
22 Citrus. These adjustments are included on Schedule E1-B, line A5,
23 columns Jan Actual through Dec Estimated.
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Q. Does DEF expect to exceed the three-year rolling average gain on non-separated power sales in 2020?

A. No. DEF estimates the total gain on non-separated sales during 2020 will be \$1,128,563, which does not exceed the three-year rolling average of \$1,602,141.

CAPACITY COST RECOVERY

Q. What is DEF's 2020 estimated capacity true-up balance and how was it developed?

A. DEF's estimated capacity true-up balance is an under-recovery of \$463,084. The estimated true-up calculation begins with the actual under-recovered balance of \$9,343,508 for the month of June 2020. This balance plus the estimated July through December 2020 monthly true-up calculations comprise the estimated \$463,084 under-recovered balance at year-end. The projected December 2020 true-up balance includes interest which is estimated from July through December 2020 based on the average of the beginning and ending commercial paper rate applied in June. That rate is 0.8% per month.

Q. What are the primary drivers of the estimated year-end 2020 capacity under-recovery?

1 A. The \$0.5 million under-recovery is primarily attributable to approximately
2 \$5.4 million lower revenues offset by approximately \$5.6 million related to
3 Florida state income tax change.
4

5 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

6 A. Yes.
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DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC**DOCKET No. 20200001-EI****Fuel and Capacity Cost Recovery Factors
January through December 2021****DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
Christopher A. Menendez****September 3, 2020**

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Christopher A. Menendez. My business address is 299 1st Avenue
3 North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701.

4

5 **Q. Have you previously filed testimony before this Commission in Docket**
6 **No. 20190001-EI?**

7 A. Yes, I provided direct testimony on March 2, 2020 and July 27, 2020.

8

9 **Q. Have your duties and responsibilities remained the same since your**
10 **testimony was last filed in this docket?**

11 A. Yes.

12

13 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

1 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present for Commission approval the fuel and
2 capacity cost recovery factors of Duke Energy Florida, LLC (“DEF” or the
3 “Company”) for the period of January through December 2021.
4

5 **Q. Do you have an exhibit to your testimony?**

6 A. Yes. I have prepared Exhibit No.__(CAM-3), consisting of Parts 1, 2 and 3. Part
7 1 contains DEF’s forecast assumptions on fuel costs. Part 2 contains fuel cost
8 recovery (“FCR”) schedules E1 through E10, H1 and the calculation of the
9 inverted residential fuel rate. I have also included a schedule to support the capital
10 structure components and cost rates relied upon to calculate the return
11 requirements on all capital projects recovered through the fuel clause as required
12 by Order No. PSC-2020-0165-PAA-EU. Part 3 contains capacity cost recovery
13 (“CCR”) schedules.
14

15 **FUEL COST RECOVERY CLAUSE**

16
17 **Q. Please describe the fuel cost factors calculated by the Company for the**
18 **projection period.**

19 A. Schedule E1 shows the calculation of the Company's jurisdictional fuel cost
20 factor of 3.090 ¢/kWh. This factor consists of a fuel cost for the projection period
21 of 3.2309 ¢/kWh (adjusted for jurisdictional losses), a GPIF reward of 0.0111

1 ¢/kWh, and an estimated prior period over-recovery true-up of (0.1543) ¢/kWh.
2 Utilizing this factor, Schedule E1-D shows the calculation and supporting data
3 for the Company's levelized fuel cost factors for service taken at secondary,
4 primary and transmission metering voltage levels. To perform this calculation,
5 effective jurisdictional sales at the secondary level are calculated by applying 1%
6 and 2% metering reduction factors to primary and
7 transmission sales, respectively (forecasted at meter level). This is consistent
8 with the methodology used in the development of the CCR factors.

9
10 Schedule E1-D, lines 11-12 show the Company's proposed tiered rates of 2.811
11 ¢/kWh for the first 1,000 kWh and 3.811 ¢/kWh above 1,000 kWh. These rates
12 are developed in the "Calculation of Inverted Residential Fuel Rates" schedule
13 in Part 2 of my exhibit.

14
15 Schedule E1-E develops the Time of Use ("TOU") multipliers of 1.251 On-peak
16 and 0.887 Off-peak. The multipliers are then applied to the levelized fuel cost
17 factors for each metering voltage level which results in the final TOU fuel factors
18 to be applied to customer bills during the projection period.

19
20 **Q. What is the amount of the 2020 net true-up that DEF has included in the**
21 **fuel cost recovery factor for 2021?**

1 A. DEF has included a projected over-recovery of \$61,083,424. This amount
2 includes a projected 2020 actual/estimated over-recovery of \$160,850,438 a
3 final 2019 true-up net under-recovery of \$21,535,230 as shown in my Direct
4 Testimony filed on March 2, 2020, and the midcourse correction amount of
5 \$78,231,785 approved in Order No. PSC-2020-0154-PCS-EI.

6

7 **Q. What is the change in the levelized residential fuel factor for the projection**
8 **period from the fuel factor currently in effect?**

9 A. The projected levelized residential fuel factor for 2021 of 3.094 ¢/kWh is a
10 decrease of 0.256 ¢/kWh or 8% from the 2020 levelized residential fuel factor of
11 3.350 ¢/kWh.

12

13 **Q. Please explain the decrease in the 2021 fuel factor compared with the 2020**
14 **fuel factor.**

15 A. The primary drivers of the decrease in the 2021 fuel factor are a decrease in
16 jurisdictional fuel and purchased power expense of approximately \$24 million,
17 decrease in the prior period true-up of approximately \$76 million partially offset
18 by an increase in the GPIF amount of approximately \$2 million.

19

20 **Q. Have you made any adjustments to your estimated fuel costs for the period**
21 **January through December 2021?**

1 A. Yes. Consistent with Order No. PSC-2018-0240-PAA-EQ dated May 8, 2018,
2 DEF included a retail adjustment of approximately \$13.25 million (grossed up to
3 approximately \$13.26 million from retail to system) for the amortization of Florida
4 Power Development, LLC qualifying facility regulatory asset from January
5 through December 2021.

6

7 **Q. Is DEF proposing to continue the tiered rate structure for residential**
8 **customers?**

9 A. Yes. DEF is proposing to continue use of the inverted rate design for residential
10 fuel factors to encourage energy efficiency and conservation. Specifically, the
11 Company proposes to continue a two-tiered fuel charge whereby the charge for
12 a customer's monthly usage in excess of 1,000 kWh (second tier) is priced one
13 cent per kWh higher than the charge for the customer's usage up to 1,000 kWh
14 (first tier). The 1,000 kWh price change breakpoint is reasonable in that
15 approximately 72% of all residential energy is consumed in the first tier and 28%
16 of all energy is consumed in the second tier. The Company believes the one
17 cent higher per unit price, targeted at the second tier of the residential class'
18 energy consumption, will promote energy efficiency and conservation. This
19 inverted rate design was incorporated in the Company's base rates approved in
20 Order No. PSC-2002-0655-AS-EI.

21

1 **Q. How was the inverted fuel rate calculated?**

2 A. I have included a page in Part 2 of my exhibit that shows the calculation of the
3 fuel cost factors for the two tiers of the residential rate. The two factors are
4 calculated on a revenue neutral basis so that the Company will recover the same
5 fuel costs as it would under the traditional levelized approach. The two-tiered
6 factors are determined by first calculating the amount of revenues that would be
7 generated by the overall levelized residential factor of 3.094 ¢/kWh shown on
8 Schedule E1-D. The two factors are then calculated by allocating the total
9 revenues to the two tiers for residential customers based on the total annual
10 energy usage for each tier.

11
12 **Q. How do DEF's projected gains on non-separated wholesale energy sales
13 for 2021 compare to the incentive benchmark?**

14 A. The total gain on non-separated sales for 2021 is estimated to be \$1,920,095
15 which is above the benchmark of \$1,682,538. 100% of gains below the
16 benchmark and 80% of gains above the benchmark will be distributed to
17 customers based on the sharing mechanism approved by the Commission in
18 Order No. PSC-2000-1744-PAA-EI. Therefore, since the total gain on non-
19 separated sales is above the benchmark, \$47,511 of the gains will be retained
20 for shareholders. The benchmark was calculated based on the average of actual
21 gains for 2018 and 2019 of \$2,269,916 and 1,649,136, respectively, and

1 estimated gains for 2020 of \$1,128,563 in accordance with Order No. PSC-2000-
2 1744-PAA-EI.

3
4 **Q. Please explain the entry on Schedule E1, line 11, "Fuel Cost of Stratified**
5 **Sales."**

6 A. DEF has several wholesale contracts with SECI. One contract provides for the
7 sale of supplemental energy to supply the portion of their load in excess of
8 SECI's own resources. The fuel costs charged to SECI for supplemental sales
9 are calculated on a "stratified" basis in a manner which recovers the higher cost
10 of intermediate/peaking generation used to provide the energy. There are other
11 contracts with SECI and Reedy Creek for fixed amounts of base, intermediate,
12 peaking, solar and plant-specific capacity. DEF is crediting average fuel cost of
13 the appropriate strata in accordance with Order No. PSC-1997-0262-FOF-EI.
14 The fuel costs of wholesale sales are normally included in the total cost of fuel
15 and net power transactions used to calculate the average system cost per kWh
16 for fuel adjustment purposes. However, since the fuel costs of the stratified and
17 plant-specific sales are not recovered on an average system cost basis, an
18 adjustment has been made to remove these costs and related kWh sales from
19 the fuel adjustment calculation in the same manner that interchange sales are
20 removed from the calculation.

21

1 **Q. Please give a brief overview of the procedure used in developing the**
2 **projected fuel cost data from which the Company's fuel cost recovery**
3 **factor was calculated.**

4 A. The process begins with a fuel price forecast and a system sales forecast.
5 These forecasts are input into the Company's production cost simulation model
6 along with purchased power information, generating unit operating
7 characteristics, maintenance schedules, incremental delivered fuel prices and
8 other pertinent data. The model then computes system fuel consumption and
9 fuel and purchased power costs. This information is the basis for the calculation
10 of the Company's fuel cost factors and supporting schedules.

11

12 **Q. What is the source of the system sales forecast?**

13 A. System sales are forecasted by the DEF Load and Fundamentals Forecasting
14 Department using inputs including a sales-weighted 30-year average of weather
15 conditions at the St. Petersburg, Orlando and Tallahassee weather stations,
16 population projections from the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at
17 the University of Florida, and State of Florida economic assumptions from
18 Moody's Analytics. The Energy Information Agency (EIA) surveys of class
19 energy consumption for the South Atlantic Region are incorporated as well.

20

21 **Q. What is the source of the Company's fuel price forecast?**

1 A. The fuel price forecasts are based on a combination of third party forecasts and
2 forward contracts currently in place. Additional details and forecast assumptions
3 are provided in Part 1 of my exhibit.

4

5 **Q. Are current fuel prices the same as those used in the development of the**
6 **projected fuel factor?**

7 A. No. Fuel prices can change significantly from day to day. Consistent with past
8 practices, DEF will continue to monitor fuel prices and update the projection
9 filing prior to the November hearing if changes in fuel prices warrant such an
10 update.

11

12 **Q. Is the 2019 GPIF reward discussed in the March 16, 2020 direct testimony**
13 **of Mary Ingle Lewter included in 2021 rates?**

14 A. Yes. The GPIF reward of \$4,407,712 is included on Schedule E1, Line 26 of
15 Exhibit CAM-3, Part 2.

16

17 **Q. Does DEF's Weighted Average Cost of Capital ("WACC") comply with**
18 **Order No. PSC-2020-0165-PAA-EU?**

19 A. Yes. The WACC complies with the Amended Unopposed Joint Motion to Modify
20 Order No. PSC-2012-0425-PAA-EU Regarding Weighted Average Cost of

1 Capital Methodology approved May 20, 2020 in Docket No. 20200118-EU, Order
2 No. PSC-2020-0165-PAA-EU.

3
4 **CAPACITY COST RECOVERY CLAUSE**

5
6 **Q. Please explain the schedules that are included in Exhibit__(CAM-3) Part 3.**

7 A. The following schedules are included in my exhibit:

8 Schedule E12-A – Calculation of Projected Capacity Costs – Year 2021

9
10 Page 1 of Schedule E12-A includes estimated 2021 calendar year system
11 capacity payments to Qualifying Facilities (“QF”) and other power suppliers. The
12 retail portion of the capacity payments is calculated using separation factors
13 consistent with the 2017 Settlement.

14
15 The recovery of estimated Dry Casket Storage costs, also referred to as
16 Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (“ISFSI”) costs, are included on line
17 40 of Schedule E12-A, page 1. Schedule E12-A, page 2, provides dates and
18 MWs associated with the QF and purchase power contracts.

19
20 DEF has shown the 2021 Calculation of Projected Capacity Costs on Schedule
21 E-12A, line 41.

1

Schedule E12-B – Calculation of Estimated/Actual True-Up - Year 2020

2
3 Schedule E12-B, which is also included in Exhibit ____(CAM-2) to my direct
4 testimony filed on July 27, 2020, as part of the 2020 actual/estimated true-up
5 filing, calculates the estimated true-up capacity under-recovered balance for
6 calendar year 2020 of \$463,084. This balance is carried forward to Schedule
7 E12-A, line 34 to be refunded to customers from January through December
8 2021.

9

Schedule E12-D – Calculation of Energy and Demand Percent by Rate Class

10
11 Schedule E12-D is the calculation of the 12CP and 1/13 average demand
12 allocators for each rate class. Schedule E12-D also includes the uniform
13 percentage calculation and allocation of the ISFSI revenue requirement to the
14 rate classes.

15

Schedule E12-E – Calculation of Capacity Cost Recovery Factors by Rate Class

16
17 Schedule E12-E, page 1 calculates the CCR factors for capacity costs for each
18 rate class based on the 12CP and 1/13 annual average demand allocators and
19 ISFSI costs from Schedule E12-D. The factors for capacity for the Residential,
20 General Service Non-Demand, General Service (GS-2) and Lighting secondary
21 delivery rate class in cents per kWh are calculated by multiplying total

1 recoverable jurisdictional capacity (including revenue taxes) from Schedule E12-
2 A by the class demand allocation factor, and then dividing by estimated effective
3 sales at the secondary metering level. The factor for ISFSI in cents per kWh is
4 calculated by dividing recoverable costs allocated on Schedule E12-D by
5 estimated effective sales at the secondary metering level. The factors for
6 primary and transmission rate classes reflect the application of metering
7 reduction factors of 1% and 2% from the secondary factor, respectively. The
8 factors allocate capacity costs to rate classes in the same manner in which they
9 would be allocated if they were recovered in base rates. ISFSI costs are
10 allocated to rate classes by applying a uniform percent increase as approved in
11 Order No. PSC-2016-0425-PAA-EI. Pursuant to the 2013 Revised and Restated
12 Stipulation and Settlement Agreement approved in Order No. PSC-13-0598-
13 FOF-EI, DEF has prepared the billing rates for the demand (General Service
14 Demand, Curtailable, and Interruptible) rate classes to be on a kilo-watt (kW)
15 rather than a kilo-watt-hour (kWh) basis. These changes are reflected on
16 Schedule E12-E in columns 11 through 13.

17
18 **Q. Has DEF used the most recent load research information in the**
19 **development of its capacity cost allocation factors?**

20 A. Yes. The 12CP load factor relationships from DEF's most recent load research
21 conducted for the period April 2017 through March 2018 are incorporated into the

1 capacity cost allocation factors. This information is included in DEF's Load
2 Research Report filed with the Commission on July 31, 2018.

3
4 **Q. What is the 2021 projected average retail CCR factor?**

5 A. The 2021 average retail CCR factor is 1.233 ¢/kWh, made up of capacity of
6 1.216 ¢/kWh and ISFSI costs of 0.017 ¢/kWh.

7
8 **Q. Please explain the change in the CCR factor for the projection period
9 compared to the CCR factor currently in effect.**

10 A. The total projected average retail CCR rate of 1.233 ¢/kWh is 0.182 ¢/kWh, or
11 17%, higher than the 2020 factor of 1.051 ¢/kWh. This increase is primarily due
12 to the recovery of the estimated Crystal River South (CRS) net book value
13 existing as of December 31, 2020 and the difference in the in the prior period
14 true-up balance.

15
16 **Q. Please describe DEF's treatment of the Crystal River South assets.**

17 A. Schedule E12-A, page 1 of 2, line 27, reflects a one-year amortization of the total
18 estimated \$80.6M net book value of retired CRS assets as of December 31,
19 2020. This is consistent with the treatment of the CRS assets in DEF's 2017
20 Settlement, as approved in Order No. PSC-2017-0451-AS-EU. Per DEF's 2017
21 Settlement, "...DEF shall be permitted to continue the annual depreciation

1 expense and depreciation rate associated with CRS based on the last
2 Commission-approved depreciation study, which assumed a 2020 CRS
3 retirement date. DEF shall be permitted to recover in 2021, unless a different
4 time for recovery is agreed to by the Original Parties, any remaining CRS net
5 book value existing as of December 31, 2020 through the CCR Clause.”
6

7 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

8 A. Yes
9
10
11
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17
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19
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21

1 2021?

2 A For fuel and capacity, yes, sir.

3 Q Yes, sir, okay.

4 Are you employed by DEF or by what's known as
5 DEVS, D-E-V-S?

6 A DEF, sir.

7 Q Okay. Isn't it true that you filed testimony
8 in all three rounds of this docket in this year's
9 hearing cycle?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And is it also true that your testimony in
12 your -- your September 3rd testimony proposes a
13 reduction in the fuel factor revenue -- that customers
14 will pay beginning in 2021?

15 A Yes. The 2021 fuel factor is a reduction as
16 compared to 2020.

17 Q Okay. So that would be a reduction from 3.350
18 cents per kilowatt hour to 3.09 cents per kilowatt hour?

19 A Are you looking at -- which factor are you
20 looking at, sir?

21 Q For fuel -- just for fuel alone.

22 A I see on the exhibit -- or the Schedule E1 of
23 3.09, yes, is the current one, or the one for 2021.

24 Q Okay. And everyone knows we are here today to
25 talk about Bartow. The impact of the Bartow decision

1 would be reflected in the fuel factor only, not
2 capacity, right?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Okay. And isn't it true that you filed
5 testimony in the 2017, 2018 and 2019 fuel hearing
6 cycles?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Okay. Isn't it also true that DEF received
9 orders authorizing to you collect all, or 100 percent of
10 the costs that were submitted by you in your testimony
11 and in the petitions related to fuel cost recovery in
12 those years?

13 A Yes, sir. The amounts that we collected in
14 the fuel rates in those years was approved by the
15 Commission.

16 Q Okay. And those are the amounts that you
17 requested recovery for, right?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Okay. So another way of saying that would be
20 that none of the costs that you sought to recover in
21 '17, '18 and '19 were disallowed by the Commission,
22 correct?

23 A Correct. No disallowances, sir.

24 Q Okay. Now, wouldn't you agree with me that in
25 2017, for an approximately 60-day period between the end

1 of February and the beginning of May, that DEF
2 experienced an outage at the Bartow unit, specifically
3 Unit 4, the steam generator?

4 A Can you repeat those dates again, Mr.
5 Rehwinkel?

6 Q Yes, the end of February to the beginning of
7 May of 2017.

8 A I don't have the exact date, sir. I do recall
9 it was approximately a two-month period.

10 Q Okay. And isn't it true that due to the
11 installation of a pressure plate, that for the period of
12 approximately May of 2017 through September 2019, that
13 the Bartow Unit 4 experienced a derating of as much as
14 40 megawatts of the capacity of that unit on a periodic
15 basis, depending upon whether the capacity was needed in
16 the dispatch of the unit?

17 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I am not an --

18 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Chairman -- Mr. Chairman, I
19 apologize, I need to object.

20 This goes well beyond the scope of any
21 testimony Mr. Menendez has filed in this docket.
22 He is not an operational witness. These are
23 matters that have been -- that have been the
24 subject of litigation and the order that's under
25 appeal. I just don't know where it is that we are

1 going with these, and how it's pertinent to
2 anything at issue.

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: So let's stick to the scope
4 of the testimony.

5 And, Mr. Menendez, is this not -- nowhere --
6 is this anywhere in your testimony?

7 MR. REHWINKEL: May I be heard?

8 CHAIRMAN CLARK: In one second.

9 THE WITNESS: No, Mr. Chairman.

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Rehwinkel.

11 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The issue
12 here is not what's in his testimony, it's what's
13 not in his testimony. And I have one exhibit,
14 which is the Bartow order, which is Exhibit 1C, and
15 it is order PSC-2020-0368A-FOF-EI. This order has
16 the facts that DEF did not challenge and are not
17 subject to the appeal to the Supreme Court. And
18 these facts include findings by the DOAH judge that
19 the Commission adopted that said there was a
20 derating that generated \$5 million in replacement
21 power costs over a period from May of 2017 through
22 September of 2019 --

23 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Chairman, we will stipulate
24 that that order speaks for itself. I am just
25 saying that Mr. Menendez is not a witness who has

1 any personal knowledge about these issues. The
2 order is what the order is.

3 I would take note, we have filed a notice of
4 appeal, but we have not filed a substance of
5 appeal. So I think it's a little presumptuous to
6 say what's going to be under that appeal. We
7 haven't drafted it yet.

8 But other than, that I am simply -- I am not
9 disputing that the order says what the order says.
10 I am just saying that Mr. Menendez is not a witness
11 here who can -- who can speak to these issues, nor
12 do I know how it would be pertinent.

13 MR. REHWINKEL: Mr. Chairman, I didn't finish
14 my response to the original objection.

15 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Okay. Go ahead, Mr.
16 Rehwinkel.

17 MR. REHWINKEL: The reason we are here today
18 is to identify whether there are costs that should
19 be credited in the fuel clause, and to identify the
20 types of those costs.

21 I don't really need Mr. Menendez to agree to
22 the facts that Duke stipulated to, or agreed to in
23 the order. And I would agree with Mr. Bernier,
24 that the order speaks for itself. But I do need to
25 ask Mr. Menendez whether he has reflected certain

1 costs in the fuel cost recovery over the period
2 that leads to the amount that the customers are
3 currently paying, and will be paying in 2019.

4 So my purpose of asking these questions is to
5 establish factual predicate about what costs are in
6 and what costs are not reflected in the fuel
7 factor. And I believe I am entitled to some leeway
8 on that. And if Mr. Bernier's objection is
9 sustained, I will ask the Commission to accept a
10 proffer of the cross-examination so that a proper
11 record can be made for appeal.

12 CHAIRMAN CLARK: So I am going to give you
13 just a little bit of leeway here, Mr. Rehwinkel.
14 Mr. Menendez, if he doesn't know the answer to the
15 question, he is going to answer no. Let's don't
16 dig. Let's move on from that point.

17 All right. Proceed.

18 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

19 Q So I think the last question to you,
20 Mr. Menendez, and your answer through the Chairman was
21 that you don't know about whether there was a derate as
22 much as 40 megawatts depending on a dispatch of the unit
23 over the period of May of '17 through September of 2019;
24 is that right?

25 A That is not my knowledge, sir.

1 Q Okay. Wouldn't you agree that your testimony
2 reflects a replacement power cost if there is an
3 outage -- strike that, and let me ask it this way:
4 Wouldn't you agree that your -- the cost that you
5 present in your true-up, your AE, or actual estimated,
6 and your projected filings includes as a component
7 request for cost recovery for replacement power costs
8 that are required because of an outage of a unit that is
9 otherwise planned to operate?

10 A Are you addressing a specific outage, Mr.
11 Rehwinkel?

12 Q No. I am asking you a question as to the
13 nature of the testimony that you present year in and
14 year out on behalf of the company?

15 A I can't speak to hypothetical outages that may
16 or may not occur.

17 Q Well, in the 2017 outage -- we can argue about
18 this all day long if you would like, but the 2017 outage
19 had replacement power costs, and you submitted cost
20 recovery for those replacement -- for those replacement
21 power costs, did you not?

22 A Those costs have been recovered.

23 Q My question was did you present cost recovery
24 for those costs -- cost recovery testimony for those
25 costs?

1 A I would have to go back and check prior year
2 filings. I -- I do not believe it is in my current
3 testimony.

4 Q Okay. Well, let's look at it this way: You
5 would agree that outage and derating circumstances
6 caused Duke to incur replacement power costs in the
7 years 2018 and 2019, would you not?

8 A It is not my area of knowledge, sir.

9 Q You don't know whether you have ever presented
10 testimony seeking replacement power costs?

11 A Testimony has been presented in prior years.
12 Sir, you seem to be asking a specific question about an
13 operational issue.

14 Q I am asking if you have presented testimony
15 seeking cost recovery for outage costs in prior years?

16 A In prior years, we -- I have -- we have
17 included cost recovery related to outage costs.

18 Q And one of those outages was the 2017 Unit 4
19 outage in Bartow, correct?

20 A The costs associated with those outages have
21 been recovered, yes.

22 Q But you presented testimony specifically
23 seeking recovery of those costs, right?

24 A Again, as I said, I would have to go back and
25 take a look at the prior testimony that I specifically

1 filed. I -- to my knowledge, I do not have anything in
2 my current testimony related to that.

3 Q You can't answer my question about whether you
4 sought -- well, let me ask it this way: Isn't it true
5 that in 2017 you filed testimony that included a
6 stipulation with the Public Counsel that -- and the
7 FIPUG and White Springs -- that you would not recover in
8 2018 fuel factor the costs of the Bartow outage?

9 A Is there a document you can point me to, Mr.
10 Rehwinkel?

11 Q Well, do you have a copy of the 2017
12 prehearing order?

13 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Rehwinkel, that's the 2017
14 prehearing order?

15 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes, order 2017-0399.

16 MR. BERNIER: Okay, I have got it.

17 THE WITNESS: I have that, Mr. Rehwinkel.

18 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

19 Q Can you turn to page 31?

20 A Yes, sir, I am there.

21 Q Do you see a stipulation there under Issue 1B
22 that reads: Duke Energy Florida and the parties
23 stipulate that Duke has not included the approximately
24 \$10,973,639 in retail replacement power associated with
25 the unplanned Bartow outage in developing rates for

1 2018. These costs will remain in the over/under account
2 to be considered in Docket 20180001-EI for recovery in
3 2019 rates, subject to normal intervenor challenge and
4 Commission reasonableness and prudence review and
5 approval?

6 A Yes, sir, I do.

7 Q Okay. Does that refresh your recollection
8 that you did not include the Bartow outage costs in 2018
9 for recovery in the 2018 fuel factor?

10 A Yes, sir. It's just a matter of understanding
11 the sequencing of years, sir.

12 Q Okay. So would it also be true that you
13 sought recovery for that approximately \$11 million
14 related to the Bartow outage in 2019's fuel factor?

15 A Do we have another document would can go to,
16 Mr. Rehwinkel --

17 Q Well --

18 A -- to refresh my memory?

19 Q You don't know?

20 A It has -- Mr. Rehwinkel, it has been
21 recovered. The specific year, I don't have that
22 document in front of me.

23 Q So you are the witness for the company seeking
24 cost recovery and you don't know when those costs were
25 recovered?

1 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I know it was recovered in a
2 prior year, which -- the specific year, if you could
3 point me to a document, I would be happy to review that.

4 Q Well, it's not in this year's, is it?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Is it in -- was it in -- so it wasn't in '18,
7 so it had to be in 2019, right?

8 A Yeah, if it was not in 2018, then it was in
9 2019.

10 Q Okay. So if it was in 2019, you filed
11 testimony in March of 2020 seeking to true-up the 2019
12 factor, right?

13 A Yes. 2020 -- the current docket includes the
14 2020 final true-up.

15 Q Okay. So to the extent all of that dollar
16 figure I read there wasn't recovered in 2019, true-up
17 recovery would occur in 2020?

18 A That is the way in which the true-up works,
19 sir, yes, sir.

20 Q Okay. So you can't really say whether it's
21 all been recovered. The recovery process is ongoing,
22 right?

23 A If it was in the 2019 fuel factors, we would
24 have collected those revenues in 2019. If there was a
25 residual difference in any fuel recovery amount, it does

1 carry over to the true-up in the next proceeding.

2 Q Okay. So -- yeah, and that's all I wanted to
3 ask you about that.

4 With respect to that stipulation that we
5 looked at in the -- in that order 2017-0399 on page 31,
6 tell me what the over/under account is there.

7 A Just a moment, sir.

8 The over/under account that is being referred
9 to is otherwise known as the true-up balance, or the
10 true-up variance.

11 Q Okay. How does that operate?

12 A It is a variance between the revenues
13 collected and the expenses occurred in the clause
14 account.

15 Q Okay. So when the stipulation refers to
16 remain in the over/under account, that means that
17 those -- that \$11 million was not submitted for cost
18 recovery from customers, but it doesn't mean that Duke
19 wasn't able to recover those costs, because you
20 accounted for them in that account and then you
21 submitted them for recovery in the next year, right?

22 A Yes, if they were included in 2019, they would
23 have been included in the 2019 projection file.

24 Q Okay. So Duke never lost the opportunity to
25 have the Commission consider those cost recovery just by

1 holding them in that over/under account, right?

2 A That's a legal question for the -- as to the
3 Commission, Mr. Rehwinkel. That's not my area.

4 Q Well -- okay, let's ask you a factual
5 question. You didn't recover them, submit them for
6 recovery in 20 -- well, Bartow outage, you have agreed,
7 occurred in May -- in early 2017, right?

8 A Early 2017, yes.

9 Q And you also would agree with me that there
10 were replacement power costs incurred because of that,
11 because that's what the stipulation says, right?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. And you would agree with me that you
14 didn't submit them for recovery in 2018, but you did in
15 2019, right?

16 A Subject to check, I will.

17 Q Okay. So my question to you is you incurred
18 them in '17, you forwent the opportunity to recover them
19 in 2018, but you recovered them in 2019; as a matter of
20 fact, did you not lose the opportunity to recover fuel
21 replacement costs that you incurred in 2017 in a
22 subsequent year, right?

23 A They were recovered in a subsequent year.

24 Q Okay. So your opportunity was preserved to
25 recover those costs in the fuel clause, right?

1 A We recovered them in a future year, Mr.
2 Rehwinkel. If it's a legal clarification on the
3 preservation, it's not my area.

4 Q Okay. I understand that.

5 So do you have Exhibit 1C with you?

6 A Yes, sir, I do.

7 Q I would like you to turn to --

8 MR. REHWINKEL: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. In
9 light of some of the objections, I am trying to cut
10 out some of the questions and shortcut this.

11 CHAIRMAN CLARK: No problem.

12 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

13 Q I would like you to return -- to turn to what
14 is revised OPC Exhibit 1C, Bates number 57, which is
15 page 56 of the order, and it's in Attachment A, and
16 specifically to paragraph 124; and if you could tell me
17 when you get there.

18 A I apologize. My mic muted. I am there.

19 Q Okay. Now, do you see -- and this is -- I
20 don't think anything on this page that's not redacted is
21 confidential, would you agree with that? Or maybe your
22 counsel needs to agree with that.

23 MR. BERNIER: I will agree with that. Yes.

24 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.

25 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

1 Q So it's possible that -- well, let me strike
2 that question and ask you to move back to page 47.
3 These are the findings of fact. So we can stay away
4 from the conclusions of law.

5 A To make sure I am there, Mr. Rehwinkel, it has
6 OPC Exhibit 1C, this is 048 in the top -- (inaudible) --
7 hand corner.

8 Q Actually it will be 047. It's page 46 of the
9 order and 047 of our exhibit.

10 A I see. I am there.

11 Q Okay. Do you see that in paragraph 80 there,
12 under replacement power and derating costs, that it
13 says: Further, the record evidence established that DEF
14 incurred replacement power costs from May 2017 through
15 September 2019, the period of the, quote, derating,
16 close quote, of the steam turbine, i.e., the reduction
17 in output from 420 megawatts to 380 megawatts while it
18 operated with the pressure plate. These costs
19 calculated by year are 1,675,561 2017, 2,215,648 2018
20 and 1,125,573 2019, for a total of \$5,016,782; do you
21 see that?

22 A I see it is written there, yes, sir.

23 Q Okay. Now, as the witness seeking cost
24 recovery in the fuel factor, would you agree that DEF
25 recovered costs for derating, or maybe still is

1 recovering costs for the derating as identified in this
2 paragraph 80 in the fuel factor for the years '17, '18
3 and '19?

4 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I am not familiar with these
5 figures. I see that they are on the page, and they are
6 as you described them. However, I have no detailed
7 information on these figures.

8 Q Okay. That's fair enough.

9 Let me ask you this: Regardless of whether
10 those numbers specifically apply in those amounts for
11 those years, would you agree that in some dollar amount,
12 DEF has recovered, or is still recovering, costs
13 associated with replacement power associated with the
14 derating that the judge found in this findings of fact?

15 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I am not familiar -- any
16 derating is not my area of knowledge.

17 Q Replacement power, though, is something that
18 you account for, right?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. Would you agree that there are
21 replacement power costs that are being recovered, or
22 have been recovered through the fuel factor by DEF in
23 the period 2017 through 2020? We are in 2020 right now.

24 A The replacement power costs that we discussed
25 previously in the 2017 prehearing documents, I am

1 familiar with those. And as I said previously, those
2 amounts have been recovered.

3 Q Those amounts were just for the two months, or
4 60-day period while the unit was down in its entirety,
5 right?

6 A Yes, sir. That is my understanding. Yes.

7 Q And to the extent there were replacement power
8 costs incurred because of the pressure plate and the
9 derating that the judge found, your -- those costs would
10 have been submitted by you in your accounting for all of
11 Duke's -- Duke Florida's fuel cost, correct?

12 A And I am saying, Mr. Rehwinkel, that I am not
13 an operations person on the derating of the unit and
14 impacts from the derating of the unit, I don't have
15 knowledge on the impacts of derating a unit.

16 Q If there were derating costs -- well, if there
17 were replacement power costs associated with derating,
18 Duke would have sought recovery for those costs in a
19 period which -- after they were -- they were incurred,
20 correct?

21 A In a hypothetical derating scenario, Mr.
22 Rehwinkel?

23 Q Yes, a hypothetical derating scenario?

24 A I can't answer the hypothetical without
25 understanding the -- what the specifics might have been

1 of that, I -- I can't answer a hypothetical, sir.

2 Q All right. Are you familiar with the
3 over/under account, is that within the purview of your
4 testimony?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Chairman, if I may. I think
7 we are at kind of at an impasse where Mr. Menendez
8 is saying almost the same thing, that he is not
9 familiar with some of these amounts.

10 If it helps, again, I am willing to stipulate
11 that the figure that is shown in paragraph 81 is
12 the amount that the ALJ found should be refunded,
13 and that the Commission has ordered a refund that
14 we have now subsequently appealed, and I think we
15 would stipulate that that is not incorporated into
16 the 2021 projection filing, if that will get us
17 where we need to go.

18 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you.

19 MR. REHWINKEL: If I could just get -- I want
20 to ask this question about the over/under.

21 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. So let -- let me
22 address one issue, and I think Mr. Menendez is
23 separating replacement power from the downrating,
24 and so if we can leave those two issues separate,
25 Mr. Rehwinkel, I think we can move along with the

1 witness.

2 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

3 Q My question to you, Mr. Menendez, is: Are
4 there any amounts in the over/under account that are
5 being withheld related to a derating cost replacement
6 power cost, withheld from cost recovery?

7 A I am not aware of any true-up or over/under
8 amounts being withheld at all.

9 Q And would you be if there were?

10 A Would I be aware?

11 Q Yes.

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. All right. I think that -- that gets
14 me where I need to be there.

15 So is it fair to say, based on, I think the
16 sum of the testimony that we've gotten through thus far,
17 that you did not submit any testimony in 2017, 2018 or
18 2019 or 2020 seeking affirmative cost recovery for
19 replacement power costs associated with derating?

20 A Again, Mr. Rehwinkel, I -- I -- I would want
21 to go back and double check the testimonies from those
22 prior years to make sure that I don't misstate something
23 as I sit here now. I have not stated that in my 2020
24 testimony, or in the testimony in the current docket.

25 Q Okay. And, I mean, we can go through the

1 **2017, 2018 and 2019 prehearing orders --**

2 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I just don't want to
3 misremember something --

4 Q **Sure.**

5 A -- and misstate something.

6 Q **Okay. But subject to check, you will agree**
7 **with me, there is nothing in your 12 sets of testimony**
8 **since 2017 where you affirmatively request recovery for**
9 **deratement -- derated replacement power costs, would you**
10 **agree with what?**

11 A Subject to check, I do not recall an aspect of
12 that in my testimony.

13 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. If you would just give
14 me a second, Mr. Chairman, I am cutting out a lot
15 of questions based on where we've gotten so far.

16 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

17 Q **All right. So if you go to Exhibit 1C, and**
18 **turn to Bates stamp page number four.**

19 A It would be order of page number three, Mr.
20 Rehwinkel?

21 Q **Yes, sir.**

22 A I am there.

23 Q **Okay. In the first full paragraph there, you**
24 **would agree that this order recounts that the ALJ issued**
25 **his recommended order on April 27th, 2020?**

1 A I see where it says the ALJ issued his
2 recommended order on April 27th, 2020.

3 Q Okay. You have no reason to disagree with
4 that, right?

5 A No.

6 Q Okay. Now, you filed testimony this year on
7 March 3rd of 2020, true-up testimony, correct?

8 A For 2019, yes, sir.

9 Q Yes, okay. So you would not have considered
10 in that testimony an order of the judge that came out on
11 April 27th in any way, is that right, since those
12 true-up for 2019?

13 A No, sir. It came after the filing had already
14 been made.

15 Q Okay. Now, you didn't file a midcourse
16 correction testimony to account for the judge's order
17 when it came out, did you?

18 A No, sir.

19 MR. BERNIER: I am going to object again, Mr.
20 Chairman. That was a recommended order from an
21 ALJ. There was still a lot of process left. I
22 don't know why anybody would have filed anything at
23 that point, but we will stipulate we didn't.

24 MR. REHWINKEL: Well, he already said that he
25 didn't. I think that's fine.

1 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

2 Q Did you -- did you place the 16 million --
3 \$16.1 million that the judge ordered to be returned to
4 customers in an over/under account?

5 A No, Mr. Rehwinkel, place it in an over/under
6 account?

7 Q Yes.

8 A It was -- it was -- I think, as we agreed, it
9 had already been recovered in a prior year.

10 Q Well, that was a debit that you recovered in a
11 prior year, correct?

12 A No, the revenues were collected.

13 Q It's a cost that the customers pay. It's
14 submitted as a debit, and then when it's collected, it's
15 a credit, right, it's a credit to the company's
16 revenues, right?

17 A The revenues offset the expenses.

18 Q Right, which is a debit?

19 A The -- yes, the expense would be a debit, the
20 credit -- the revenue would be a credit.

21 Q Okay. So when you -- in 2017, when you put
22 the \$11 million in the over/under account, you put it in
23 there as a debit, right?

24 A Not to get -- not to get too caught up on the
25 dealt and credits and the flow in between the different

1 accounts, but it would have been in -- in 2017 costs --
2 as we said in the prehearing statement, it remained in
3 the true-up balance.

4 **Q But as a debit that needed to be recovered in**
5 **a future period, right?**

6 A If we needed -- yes, it was being held as the
7 stipulation, as said, for the next year's docket.

8 **Q Okay. Now, when the judge issued his order,**
9 **you could have reflected a \$16 million credit in the**
10 **over/under account, right?**

11 A Mr. Rehwinkel, I think as Mr. Bernier said,
12 the process -- we had not received anything from the
13 Commission at that time.

14 **Q So you would agree with me that after the**
15 **judge filed his recommended order, the parties filed**
16 **responses to that, and then on July 27th, you filed your**
17 **AE testimony, your actual estimated testimony, right?**

18 A Yes, I believe it was filed on the 27th.

19 **Q And at that point, you didn't make any**
20 **adjustment to remove the \$16 million for cost recovery**
21 **for 2021, is that right?**

22 A There was no adjustment in my actual
23 estimated.

24 **Q Okay. And just for the record, why would you**
25 **not have made an adjustment in your AE testimony?**

1 A We -- the process was still under way, Mr.
2 Rehwinkel.

3 Q Okay. Now, on August 14th of 2020, the staff
4 filed its recommendation that the Commission adopt the
5 recommended order of the -- of the ALJ, would you accept
6 that subject to check?

7 A Subject to check, I will accept the date, Mr.
8 Rehwinkel.

9 Q Okay. And I think you would agree that on
10 September 1 of 2020, the Commission voted to adopt
11 staff's recommendation?

12 A Subject to check, I will accept the date, Mr.
13 Rehwinkel.

14 Q Okay. And two days later, you filed
15 projections for fuel costs in 2021, right?

16 A On September 3rd, we filed the projection for
17 '21, yes, sir.

18 Q In that testimony, you didn't make any
19 adjustments to implement the Commission's vote, or put
20 the \$16.1 million as a credit in the over/under account,
21 did you?

22 A There was no \$16 million credit.

23 Q And your testimony didn't reflect that as
24 well, right?

25 A No, it is not in my testimony.

1 Q Can you tell me why you didn't at that point?

2 A Mr. Rehwinkel, if it's getting to a legal
3 question between a Commission vote and a Commission
4 final order, I am not an attorney, and that is not my
5 area of knowledge.

6 Q Okay. Was there any reason that you thought
7 that the Commission's order reducing the Commission vote
8 to writing would be changed so that the number would
9 change, that there wouldn't be a \$16 million credit
10 required?

11 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Chair, to the extent that he
12 is getting into what could be a privileged
13 conversation, I am going to object to this line of
14 questioning. I think he has already answered.

15 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yeah, I will sustain the
16 objection.

17 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

18 Q We are -- today is September 3rd -- or
19 November 3rd, and the Commission voted on September 1st.
20 Was 60 days an inadequate period of time for you to make
21 an adjustment -- a one-time adjustment to credit the \$16
22 million to the fuel cost recovery?

23 A Mr. Rehwinkel, the final order wasn't issued
24 until October 15th, and it wasn't received until
25 October 16th.

1 Q Okay. How many days do you generally need to
2 make an adjustment to a fuel filing to incorporate a
3 one-time credit?

4 A It depends on the adjustment, Mr. Rehwinkel.

5 Q I mean, is a -- is there a difference between
6 a \$16 million adjustment and a \$32 million adjustment in
7 terms of the time it takes to put it into the system and
8 develop the factors?

9 A Depending on the nature of the adjustment, the
10 dollar amount itself doesn't have an impact. It's more
11 the nature of the adjustment.

12 Q So you would agree that the \$16.1 million is a
13 one-time credit to the extent that order is sustained
14 and up held, is that right?

15 A If the order stands up, but, Mr. Rehwinkel,
16 the -- as I said, the projection filing was made on
17 September 3rd. We did not have a Bartow order until the
18 15th or 16th of October.

19 Q Well, I guess my original question to you was
20 how long does it take to reflect the impact of a \$16.1
21 million one-time credit?

22 A To my knowledge, Mr. Rehwinkel, we have not
23 received that request.

24 Q What do you mean you haven't received it? You
25 mean in the form of a final final final order?

1 A No, sir. Not in the form of a final final
2 final order.

3 Q Well, how would you need to receive that
4 request to reflect it? I guess that's what I am
5 confused about.

6 A We did not receive --

7 MR. BERNIER: I am sorry, Mr. Rehwinkel, I
8 didn't -- I apologize. I wasn't trying to
9 interrupt. I just didn't hear your question. I
10 apologize.

11 MR. REHWINKEL: That's okay. He said he had
12 not received a request to make a one-time credit.
13 I think that's generally what he said.

14 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

15 Q And I am asking what form would you have
16 needed to have received the request in order to
17 effectuate it?

18 A The, I believe, discovery request, Mr.
19 Rehwinkel.

20 Q From whom?

21 A Whoever was interested in the information.

22 Q Okay. So you don't see it as your obligation
23 to make adjustments to the fuel factor unless somebody
24 asks you to?

25 A Mr. Rehwinkel, the --

1 MR. REHWINKEL: Was there an objection?

2 MR. BERNIER: Yes. I apologize.

3 You are asking him a legal conclusion of when
4 he needed to make this adjustment. That's the way
5 I am understanding the question. I think he's
6 answered that question.

7 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Bernier, I can't --

8 MR. BERNIER: I object to the extent you are
9 asking for a legal conclusion.

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: I am having a difficult time
11 understanding you, Mr. Bernier.

12 MR. BERNIER: I certainly apologize.

13 My objection was that the extent he is asking
14 for a legal conclusion of when he -- Mr. Menendez
15 needed to effectuate the schedules, I am objecting
16 to him asking him for a legal conclusion. I think
17 he has asked and answered the question about when
18 he received the final order, and Mr. Menendez is
19 saying he has not received any discovery requests
20 to put this together. There is a order that came
21 out that is now subject to appeal. I think that
22 the question he is asking him is did you have an
23 obligation to update his schedules, and I am
24 objecting that that is a legal conclusion.

25 CHAIRMAN CLARK: I tend to agree.

1 MR. REHWINKEL: Mr. Chairman, I -- that's not
2 the question I asked. We can ask the court
3 reporter to read it.

4 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Rehwinkel, you can ask
5 the question that you asked earlier again and I
6 will instruct the witness to answer it. I -- you
7 are correct, that is the no the question. You
8 asked how long it would take to implement a change
9 if he was given one. If the witness knows the
10 answer to that, he can certainly answer it.

11 MR. REHWINKEL: Well, the question I want to
12 ask him is -- he said I hadn't received a discovery
13 request, and I asked -- well, I was trying to
14 understand what it takes for him to make a credit
15 to the fuel clause, and I think he said a discovery
16 request. And I wanted to understand the basis for
17 that, is that -- is that some -- where did that
18 come from?

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Menendez, you can answer
20 the question to the extent that you know the
21 answer.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 Mr. Rehwinkel, I was not indicating that a
24 discovery request is what prompts an adjustment to
25 the fuel clause. That if -- that is not -- that is

1 not my response.

2 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

3 Q Okay. So I think we've established that
4 the -- except maybe for some minor true-ups, that you
5 recovered the \$11 million for the 2017 event, is that --
6 can we agree on that?

7 A The amount from the 2017 prehearing order,
8 yes, sir.

9 Q Yes. Now, if an appeal -- well, an appeal was
10 taken yesterday, and I don't want you to -- I am not
11 asking your opinion about how long it takes for an
12 appeal to go, but I want to ask you a question that is
13 hypothetical, and I want to get your response to how the
14 mechanics of the fuel process would work.

15 Appeal was taken yesterday, and if it takes,
16 assume for the sake of my question, six months for
17 briefing to occur, and maybe more based on extensions
18 that are routinely asked for and granted by the Court --
19 are you following me so far?

20 A I am trying, Mr. Rehwinkel, but I am not -- I
21 am not an attorney, and I am not familiar with the
22 operations of the -- of the Florida Supreme Court.

23 Q I am just asking you some questions based on
24 your knowledge of the calendar, okay, the 12-month
25 calendar, okay?

1 A Okay.

2 Q So if briefing occurs and is concluded in,
3 say, May of 2021, which is the next year, and oral
4 argument occurs in the late summer or early fall of
5 2021, and a written decision comes out from the Court
6 denying the appeal, and -- on December 15th of 2021, and
7 the order is final, and it's ordered that you refund \$16
8 million to the customers through the true-up process in
9 the clause, when would that \$16 million be reflected on
10 customer bills?

11 A Again, Mr. Rehwinkel, there is a lot of
12 questions going around about the timing of the Florida
13 Supreme Court, and how things are going to be handled.
14 I don't -- I am not an attorney. I don't know all the
15 legal ramifications and the timing of when things come
16 down.

17 Q All right. So let me ask it -- let me -- let
18 me ask it this way: If you get a final order from the
19 Florida Supreme Court on December 15th of 2021, when
20 would those -- that \$16 million, plus interest, be
21 refunded or credited to the bills of customers?

22 A Again, Mr. Rehwinkel, the -- the legal
23 ramifications of when things are coming down from the
24 Florida Supreme Court, I would need to --

25 Q You don't have to apply the Florida Supreme

1 **Court. I am just asking a final order.**

2 A Yes, sir, and I am saying, as far as legal
3 conclusions about when things ultimately finish, I would
4 want to just make sure that I am -- I understand from
5 legal counsel what the various different things mean
6 from the Florida Supreme Court.

7 MR. BERNIER: Mr. Rehwinkel, I will help you
8 real quick.

9 So, Chris, if that happens on December 15th,
10 2021, that's the end of the road, short of, well, I
11 guess, motions for reconsiderations, but let's just
12 pretend that's the end of the road and there is
13 nothing else that can happen.

14 Will that help the hypothetical, Mr.
15 Rehwinkel, but let's say that that's it, are we
16 right?

17 MR. REHWINKEL: That's what I am asking.

18 MR. BERNIER: Thank you.

19 THE WITNESS: The -- in that event, the amount
20 would be recorded in December, it would be
21 incorporated in the true-up balance, and it would
22 be reflected in customer rates the next time the
23 rates were set for fuel.

24 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

25 **Q Okay. So just what I am trying to get at is**

1 you would reflect it in the true-up balance, that would
2 show up in your March 2022 testimony, right --

3 A Yes.

4 Q -- assuming you are the one filing the
5 testimony for that cycle, right?

6 A Right, and assuming it's in March, yes.

7 Q Right.

8 A Traditionally is.

9 Q And then that \$16 million adjustment would
10 show up on customer bills on 1/1/2023, correct?

11 Assuming being when your billing cycle starts for the
12 first cycle.

13 A It would be -- I -- the process -- that would
14 be the next projection process, would be the projection
15 filing that year for the following year, yes.

16 Q Okay. So -- and then that \$16 million would
17 be flowed through the customers -- to the customers
18 through the factor over the next 12 months, right?

19 A Yes.

20 Q All right. So customers would receive, under
21 the hypothetical, their money back at the end of
22 December 2023, subject to any sales related true-ups in
23 2024; is that right?

24 A It would be over the course of 2023, not at
25 the end of 2023, Mr. Rehwinkel.

1 Q So it would be completed at the end of 2023,
2 subject to any sales related true-ups in 2024, right?

3 A Ignoring those, yes.

4 Q Okay. All right. Mr. Menendez, those are I
5 will the questions I have for you. Thank you for your
6 patience and working through this.

7 A Thank you, Mr. Rehwinkel.

8 Q Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Rehwinkel.
10 Okay. We are going to take our break right
11 there. When we come back, we are going to pick up
12 with FIPUG. It is 10 after 12:00, so we will
13 return at exactly one o'clock eastern time. One
14 o'clock eastern time we will resume.

15 Any questions or comments? Commissioners,
16 everybody good?

17 All right. We stand in recess until 1:00.

18 (Lunch recess.)

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: We are going to go ahead and
20 get started back. I believe we left off, OPC had
21 finished their cross-examination and, I believe
22 that brings us to FIPUG.

23 Ms. Putnal, are you available?

24 MS. PUTNAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. FIPUG
25 has no questions.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Thank you.

2 Mr. Brew, your witness.

3 MR. BREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you
4 hear me?

5 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, sir. We can hear you
6 great.

7 MR. BREW: Great. Thank you.

8 EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. BREW:

10 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Menendez.

11 A Good afternoon, Mr. Brew.

12 Q This shouldn't take more than a couple of
13 hours, we will be fine.

14 Quickly, your job in this docket is to present
15 accurate, reasonable and prudent fuel costs that
16 reconcile actual and estimates to develop fuel factors
17 for next year?

18 A Yes, sir, for the 2019 final true-up to 2020
19 actual estimated going into the '21 -- 2021 projections
20 fuel factors.

21 Q Okay. And you -- at the beginning of your
22 testimony, you mentioned that you had provided revised
23 exhibits that are numbered 4, 6 and 7, is that right?

24 A Staff 4, 6 and 7, yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. And those involve revisions to your

1 previously filed actual and estimated calculations,
2 right?

3 A I believe one was to the final true-up, one
4 was to the actual estimated, and I believe the third may
5 have been to the projection filing.

6 Q Okay. And those updates, both up and down,
7 would be a normal part of the process in this clause
8 docket, right?

9 A Yes, sir, the correcting of an error in a
10 previously filed document, yes.

11 Q Okay. And am I also correct that your
12 responsibilities, as we've discussed with respect to the
13 Bartow unit outage, are -- involve basically the
14 accounting and tabulation of the costs, not necessarily
15 what's going on operationally, right?

16 A Accounting for the actual fuel costs, yes,
17 sir.

18 Q Okay. And you discussed earlier with Mr.
19 Rehwinkel that in the 2017 prehearing order in the fuel
20 docket, there was a stipulation that covered what were
21 then calculated replacement fuel costs associated with
22 the Bartow unit outage that began in February, right?

23 A That is correct.

24 Q And that calculation of \$10.9 million, the
25 retail replacement power costs, that would have come

1 **from you or your office?**

2 A It would have -- we have a department would
3 have calculated the -- the -- the actual fuel costs are
4 the costs, and then a separate calculation is run as if
5 the outage had not occurred, and then the difference
6 between those two becomes what would be called the
7 replacement power costs.

8 Q Okay. But your -- your group would have been
9 responsible for calculating that \$10.9 million?

10 A Supporting the calculation of that, the -- we
11 have a separate group that runs our dispatching that
12 would have kind of redispatched the system, if you will,
13 for the with Bartow.

14 Q Okay. I got you.

15 But it's safe to say, is it not, that in
16 submitting testimony in 2017 -- and you submitted
17 testimony in the fuel docket in 2017, '18, '19 as well
18 as this year, right?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q Okay. So is it fair to say that you were
21 aware in 2017 of the potential for dispute regarding
22 that \$10.9 million?

23 A The -- yeah, the amount -- well, we had the
24 stipulation in 2017, and then that moved it to the next
25 year's docket.

1 Q Okay. And so you were aware of the dispute of
2 those dollars, and the response, as reflected in the
3 stipulation, was to reflect that amount in your
4 over/under reconciliation account, right?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Okay. And then in the following year, you
7 provided actual and estimated reconciliation updates
8 that carried that 10 million -- or \$10.9 million
9 forward, so you effectively recovered those dollars in
10 20 -- in the 2020 factor, right?

11 A 2019 factor, I believe.

12 Q 2019 factor, yes.

13 Okay. Now, in developing the actual and
14 estimated for 2017, were you aware that when the unit
15 went back into service in May of 2017, that it went back
16 into service in a derated condition?

17 A I am not a operations person, as I said,
18 Mr. Brew. I am -- I am not familiar with the derating
19 or -- or regular rating of a unit.

20 Q You just got the fuel costs?

21 A Yeah -- yes, either the actual or the
22 projected fuel costs.

23 Q Okay. And at what point were you aware of any
24 issues regarding a dispute regarding the replacement
25 fuel costs associated with the derate of Bartow?

1 A I didn't, because that has not been addressed
2 as part of, I believe as part of any of my testimonies.

3 Q Okay. I so you are not aware of any testimony
4 in the fuel docket outside of the what was addressed in
5 the proceeding referred to -- referred to DOAH that
6 covers the derating -- the prudence of the derating
7 fuel -- replacement fuel costs, is that right?

8 A I believe the only -- the only costs that I
9 have addressed in my testimony were the -- were the what
10 we called the 10.9 million just a few moments ago --

11 Q Right.

12 A -- that I speak with Mr. Rehwinkel from the
13 2017 prehearing order.

14 Q Okay. So your testimony in these years has
15 never discussed or addressed specifically the
16 replacement fuel costs associated with the derating
17 because you had no -- no knowledge or reason to make an
18 adjustment?

19 A I have -- I have not addressed those -- I have
20 not addressed that issue in my testimony.

21 Q Okay. For your testimony this year, which
22 would have included the actual update for 2019, right?

23 A Yes, sir, the -- no, the final true-up for
24 2019.

25 Q Final true-up for 2019. And at that time,

1 were you aware of the proceeding regarding the Bartow
2 outage that was occurring at DOAH?

3 A I was aware the matter was referred. I
4 believe it was referred in the -- in the preceding
5 year's docket.

6 Q And so in your final true-up of 2019, you,
7 again just to be clear, you didn't address the
8 replacement fuel costs associated with the derated
9 condition of Bartow, which continued through much of
10 2019, is that right?

11 A I don't addressed the actual fuel costs for
12 2019 in the final true-up.

13 MR. BREW: Okay. Thank you, that's all I
14 have.

15 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Brew.

16 All right. Staff, questions, Ms. Brownless?

17 MS. BROWNLESS: Mr. Brew has wonderfully asked
18 the questions that I would have. I appreciate it,
19 Mr. Brew, and I have no further questions.

20 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Thank you very
21 much.

22 All right. Commissioners, any questions? No
23 questions from any Commissioner.

24 Commissioner Polmann, you were --

25 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Yes, I --

1 CHAIRMAN CLARK: You are recognized.

2 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: I had a few questions.

3 Yes. Thank you, sir.

4 Good afternoon, Mr. Menendez.

5 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon, Commissioner
6 Polmann.

7 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: I am trying to, and
8 maybe it's -- maybe it's just the circumstance
9 under which we find ourselves here. I am trying to
10 get some clarification without getting into things
11 that I should not.

12 Is it one of your responsibilities in your
13 work to seek recovery of the sum total cost without
14 regard to what was the cause of the need, but the
15 sum total cost for replacement power?

16 THE WITNESS: I guess I would say,
17 Commissioner Polmann, the -- we include the
18 actual -- for the years for the months that are
19 actual -- the actual incurred fuel costs, as well
20 as the projected fuel costs for any of the
21 projected period for the fuel clause, we include
22 the totality of those costs.

23 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: And I do appreciate,
24 and I think I understand the actual, the projected
25 and the true-up, so when I speak in terms of the

1 replacement, I recognize those distinctions as they
2 relate to, you know, the current year, the prior
3 year and the future years, so if we can just accept
4 that for the moment.

5 The distinction I am trying to make is -- or
6 the question -- the next question that I would
7 have, and maybe it would clarify what I am trying
8 to get to is, do you, in your responsibility and
9 those who report to you, do you make a distinction
10 at all about underlying causes or the need for
11 replacement power and, therefore, the fuel costs
12 associated with that, do you make a distinction on
13 the cause of the need?

14 THE WITNESS: I apologize, Commissioner
15 Polmann, I am afraid I don't quite understand
16 the -- what you are referring to as the cause of
17 need. Is it the cause of the replacement power?

18 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Yes. Maybe you can
19 clarify it for me. When the utility has a need
20 to -- has a cost associated with replacement power,
21 presumably there is some -- some reason why they
22 are replacement-ing power.

23 Are you concerned at all about why the utility
24 needs replacement power, what would be the cause of
25 that need, do you -- do you dis spinning wish the

1 various causes that would lead to the need for
2 replacement power?

3 THE WITNESS: It's a -- I would say it's a
4 situation -- a circumstance by circumstance,
5 case-by-case basis. The replacement power costs
6 are simply the actual fuel costs incurred. So once
7 the fuel costs are incurred, those are simply the
8 fuel costs, or, you know, purchase power costs that
9 we incur to serve customers over a set period of
10 time. You know, if a unit was or was not available
11 during that time period, the actual cost would
12 reflect the various unit availabilities.

13 So from a -- your -- to -- maybe -- and I
14 apologize if I am not getting at your -- your
15 question, Commissioner, but I would say the -- the
16 circumstance or the -- the -- of the outage is
17 something that would be potentially reviewed, you
18 know, but the replacement power costs themselves
19 are simply the fuel or the purchase power costs
20 that were incurred in the service of customers over
21 a period of time.

22 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Okay. Well, thank you.
23 Let me see if I can narrow that down.

24 My question is in context of your
25 responsibilities, and I understand -- my premise is

1 that the utility has a need for replacement power
2 from time to time, and incurs a cost for that
3 replacement power, and your responsibility -- let
4 me ask the question: Is you are responsibility
5 associated with the cost for the replacement power
6 only, or are you also -- do you have any
7 responsibility related to the cause, or the reason
8 for the need of the replacement power?

9 THE WITNESS: I -- I understand, Commissioner
10 Polmann. I apologize for not getting that sooner.

11 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: It was a poorly worded
12 question, sir. I am sorry, go ahead.

13 THE WITNESS: I was overseeing the costs and
14 the -- and specifically the inclusion of that cost
15 in the various fuel schedules. As far as a
16 assessment of the cause, that is not my area. I
17 would not be involved in those determinations.

18 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: So your responsibility
19 is to account for the costs associated with the
20 need for power, but your responsibility does not
21 include an evaluation, or an underlying cause of a
22 need for power; is that correct?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. That is correct.

24 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Thank you.

25 Are you -- are you knowledgeable of the

1 standard utility industry practice on making the
2 distinction as to cause for needing replacement
3 power, or is that just -- is that something you are
4 knowledgeable about at all about how the industry
5 does this analysis of cause?

6 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I don't believe that is
7 my area.

8 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Okay. Are you
9 knowledgeable of standard accounting requirements
10 for making that distinction of cause?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

12 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Now, is that -- let me
13 rephrase it.

14 Is accounting play into the distinction in
15 cause, and is that something that you are
16 knowledgeable about?

17 THE WITNESS: I -- I am -- my previous
18 response was of accounting for the replacement
19 power. So if I misunderstood and misstated in my
20 earlier response, I do apologize, Commissioner
21 Polmann.

22 I am not a part of -- the area of the
23 determination of the cause is not my area. It is
24 not an area with which I am familiar in making
25 those determinations. So I -- I am not sure that I

1 can -- I can answer that second part of the
2 question.

3 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I
4 just got a couple of more clarifying questions
5 here.

6 Mr. Menendez, is it -- is it your position,
7 then, here, and in your testimony, that you are
8 following the standard utility industry practice in
9 seeking replacement fuel costs, or replacement
10 power costs following what you would describe as
11 standard industry practice, is there anything
12 extraordinary about what you believe you are doing,
13 or are you following standard industry practice?
14 It's a general question.

15 THE WITNESS: No, sir. I believe we are
16 following the process.

17 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: And my last question,
18 then, is is it your position, or the utility's
19 position, your position as representing the utility
20 on this issue, is it your position that the
21 underlying cause, the material cause for the need
22 for replacement power and, therefore, the costs
23 that you are seeking recovery, is the underlying
24 material cause for the replacement power a factor
25 in determining the allowance for the cause -- the

1 allowance for the cost recovery -- I am sorry, do I
2 need to restate that?

3 THE WITNESS: If I wouldn't mind, Commissioner
4 Polmann, please.

5 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: I will just read it the
6 way I have written it.

7 Is it your position that the underlying cause
8 for replacement power is not a factor for allowing
9 cost recovery?

10 THE WITNESS: Commissioner, I -- I apologize.
11 We -- you are asking if the -- the underlying cause
12 has no bearing on the recovery?

13 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: It's a very, very
14 pointed question. And what -- what I have been
15 trying to get to -- what I am trying to get to is
16 you are seeking cost recovery in your
17 responsibilities, cost recovery for replacement
18 fuel, it's a replacement fuel associated with
19 replacement power, and so forth, within the utility
20 operation, there is some reason for this. I
21 understand you are not responsible for the
22 operating factors.

23 Is it your position that the cause for the
24 need of the recovery is separate and distinct for
25 the allowance, that the cause is not really a

1 factor in approving the cost recovery. There is a
2 need for the recovery, and it is what it is, and
3 the cause is a separate assessment? The question
4 is whether you have a position on it or not.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. The -- respectfully,
6 the company's position is the unit was operated
7 prudently, and the costs are prudently recovered.

8 I don't know if that gets to your -- your
9 answer. I do apologize, Commissioner Polmann.

10 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: No, that's fine. I am
11 just asking if you have, you know, if you have a
12 position. If you don't have a position, that's --
13 my question is do you have a position, is it your
14 position this or that? And if you have no
15 position, then I think you are answering the
16 question. I am not asking you to restate what
17 was -- what you stated, or what the -- what was
18 stated at hearing.

19 THE WITNESS: Understood --

20 CHAIRMAN CLARK: We are -- Commissioner
21 Polmann, let me --

22 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: I apologize --

23 CHAIRMAN CLARK: We are having -- we are still
24 having a little bit of trouble understanding. I
25 think you are breaking up some, is that right,

1 Mike? I can see you talking but I can't hear you,
2 and it's kind of cutting out. I think that may
3 be -- may be causing Mr. Menendez a little bit of
4 problem in understanding the question. And if you
5 don't mind, I will -- I will redirect a question
6 that might kind of help out a little bit here.

7 When you are -- when you are calculating the
8 fuel cost at the end of the year, and you look back
9 and see what went into those costs, do you have a
10 specific category, or do you categorize that you
11 purchased power, or you had to buy additional fuel
12 because of something that happened; do you classify
13 or look at that when you look back at your fuel
14 costs for the year?

15 THE WITNESS: No, sir. We just have the
16 actual fuel costs that were incurred.

17 CHAIRMAN CLARK: And in helping to understand
18 how replacement power works in these cases, I
19 assume that you are operating through a reserve
20 system where you have reserves, if a unit were to
21 go out and that unit had X fuel costs, and you had
22 to bring on or use a unit that had X plus one fuel
23 cost, at the end of the month or the year when you
24 calculated that, your fuel costs would not be
25 reflected as because of a certain instance, but

1 simply because there was additional fuel used
2 during that time period; is that a fair statement?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, it would be -- it would be
4 the actual cost of the unities that were actually
5 used to serve the customers.

6 CHAIRMAN CLARK: And the same would go if that
7 power were purchased, it would be purchased on kind
8 of a spot market in realtime, and that would just
9 be additional purchase power costs that you would
10 have during those time periods?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, generated or purchased
12 would be the same.

13 CHAIRMAN CLARK: But those would not be
14 attributed, or calculated, or recorded, if you
15 will, as we bought this additional power because of
16 this when it came to your fuel cost analysis at the
17 end of the year, right?

18 THE WITNESS: No, sir. It would simply be
19 just all -- all the costs would typically be the
20 actual costs.

21 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Okay. That's some of the --
22 that's kind of the question I heard Commissioner
23 Polmann framing. I hope I may have helped a little
24 bit there, Commissioner Polmann.

25 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman. That certainly was the direction I was
2 going in. My apologies for being awkward there.

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: No problem. No problem.

4 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: That covers my issue.
5 Thank you, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Commissioners,
7 other questions?

8 COMMISSIONER POLMANN: Thank you, Mr.
9 Menendez, that's all I have, sir.

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, sir.

11 Any of the Commissioners have questions?

12 All right. Seeing none, Mr. Bernier,
13 redirect?

14 MR. BERNIER: Yes, sir, just very, very
15 briefly, if I may. Sir, one redirect, is that
16 okay?

17 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, I am sorry. I am sorry.
18 I am having some hearing problems here.

19 MR. BERNIER: Thank you very much.

20 FURTHER EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. BERNIER:

22 **Q Mr. Menendez, if the Bartow order is sustained**
23 **on appeal, how would DEF ultimately provide the refund**
24 **of approximately 16.1 -- \$16.1 million to its customers?**

25 **A Excuse me. It is a refund. It would be**

1 provided through lower fuel rates.

2 **Q Okay. Thank you.**

3 MR. BERNIER: That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Mr. Bernier,
5 would you like to move your exhibits?

6 MR. BERNIER: Very much. Thank you.

7 I would move Exhibits 2 through 7 with the
8 revisions that Mr. Menendez outlined at the outset
9 of his testimony into the record.

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Without
11 objections, those are moved into the record.

12 (Whereupon, Exhibit Nos. 2 - 7 were received
13 into evidence.)

14 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Are there any other exhibits,
15 Ms. Brownless, that I have overlooked from any of
16 the other parties? All right. That takes care of
17 all of those.

18 I believe that is all for Mr. Menendez.

19 Would you like to excuse your witness, Mr.
20 Bernier?

21 MR. BERNIER: Very much. May he be excused?

22 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes. Mr. Menendez, you are
23 excused. Thank you very much.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank
25 you, Commissioners.

1 (Witness excused.)

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Next on the
3 agenda we have Ms. Montana, I believe Mr. Coffey,
4 am I pronouncing that correctly? Mr. Coffey is
5 your witness?

6 MS. MONCADA: Mr. Coffey.

7 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Coffey, okay.

8 MS. MONCADA: Like the drink.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right.

10 MS. MONCADA: Yes. FPL calls Robert Coffey.

11 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Mr. Coffey, would
12 you raise your right hand and repeat after me.

13 Whereupon,

14 ROBERT COFFEY

15 was called as a witness, having been first duly sworn to
16 speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
17 truth, was examined and testified as follows:

18 THE WITNESS: I do. Yes.

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you very much.

20 Ms. Moncada.

21 MS. MONCADA: Thank you.

22 EXAMINATION

23 BY MS. MONCADA:

24 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Coffey. You have just
25 been sworn.

1 **Could you please state your name and business**
2 **address for the record?**

3 A My name is Robert Coffey. My business address
4 is 15430 Endeavor Drive, Jupiter, Florida.

5 **Q By what company are you employed, and in what**
6 **capacity?**

7 A Florida Power & Light. I am the
8 Vice-President of nuclear for Florida Power & Light.

9 **Q Did you prepare and cause to be filed six**
10 **pages of prepared testimony on July 27th, 2020?**

11 A Yes, I did.

12 **Q Do you have any changes or revisions to that**
13 **prepared testimony?**

14 A No, I do not.

15 **Q If I asked you the same questions today that**
16 **are contained in that testimony, would your answers be**
17 **the same?**

18 A Yes, they would.

19 MS. MONCADA: Mr. Chairman, I would ask that
20 Mr. Coffey's July 27 testimony be inserted into the
21 record as though read.

22 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. So ordered.

23 MS. MONCADA: Thank you.

24 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of
25 Robert Coffey was inserted.)

1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2 **FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

3 **TESTIMONY OF ROBERT COFFEY**

4 **DOCKET NO. 20200001-EI**

5 **JULY 27, 2020**

6

7 **Q. Please state your name and address.**

8 A. My name is Robert Coffey. My business address is 15430 Endeavor Drive, Jupiter,
9 FL 33478.

10 **Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

11 A. I am employed by Florida Power & Light Company (“FPL”) as Vice President,
12 Nuclear in the Nuclear Business Unit.

13 **Q. Please describe your duties and responsibilities.**

14 A. I am responsible for the Nuclear fleet functional areas of Engineering,
15 Operations, Maintenance, Chemistry, Radiation Protection, Regulatory Affairs,
16 Security, Training, Outages and Projects.

17 **Q. Please describe your educational background and business experience in the**
18 **nuclear industry.**

19 A. I hold a Doctorate of Management in Organizational Leadership from the University
20 of Phoenix, Masters of Business Administration degree from Regis University, and
21 a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering Technology from Thomas
22 Edison State College. I also earned a Senior Reactor Operator Management
23 Certification at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant.

24

1 I have spent 38 years in the nuclear industry, beginning in the United States Navy
2 Nuclear Submarine Force where I served more than 20 years. I joined FPL in 2003
3 and held numerous positions of increasing responsibility including Maintenance
4 Director and Work Control Manager at Turkey Point and Plant General Manager at
5 St. Lucie. I was also the Site Vice President of NextEra Energy's Point Beach
6 Nuclear Plant and Vice President of the Southern Region for St. Lucie and Turkey
7 Point before serving in my current role as Vice President, Nuclear.

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. My testimony discusses the unplanned outage at St. Lucie Unit 1 in April 2019.

10 **Q. Please describe the unplanned outage that occurred in April 2019.**

11 A. In April 2019, St. Lucie Unit 1 automatically shut down in response to a
12 generator ground fault. FPL's response to the unplanned outage was appropriate
13 and efficient, and the unit was returned to service safely.

14 **Q. Please describe the circumstances related to the St. Lucie Unit 1 generator
15 ground fault.**

16 A. During plant operations, St. Lucie Unit 1 automatically shut down due to a
17 generator ground fault. FPL determined the ground fault was attributed to an
18 insulation fault located in stator bar B17. The cause of the insulation fault was
19 investigated but could not be definitively confirmed. Based on the location of
20 the insulation, FPL believes the mechanism that produced the fault was
21 introduced in the stator during a generator rewind performed by Siemens Energy
22 Incorporated ("Siemens") in 2012 and degraded the insulation gradually over
23 the course of seven years in service.

24 **Q. What corrective actions were initiated to address this event?**

1 A. After inspections and testing were conducted, FPL and Siemens determined a
2 full rewind of the generator was the best course of action to take in order to
3 achieve maximum reliability of the generator and the safest and most efficient
4 return to service possible. After the completion of the rewind, High Potential
5 Testing was conducted to ensure satisfactory results.

6 **Q. Following the St. Lucie Unit 1 generator ground fault, did FPL perform an
7 extent of condition review on St. Lucie Unit 2?**

8 A. Yes. FPL performed an extent of condition review of the Unit 2 generator
9 maintenance history and determined a similar ground fault was not present.

10 **Q. What did the investigation of the St. Lucie Unit 1 generator ground fault
11 find?**

12 A. FPL's investigation ruled out many potential causes, but three possible causes
13 hypothesized were neither refuted nor adequately supported: (1) a ferromagnetic
14 particle introduced during installation of the stator bar in 2012, (2) impact
15 damage during handling or installation of the stator bar in 2012 or (3) a
16 contaminant or small object introduced in the stator bar insulation during its
17 manufacture or construction.

18 **Q. Explain why the location of the insulation indicates the fault mechanism
19 was introduced during the 2012 rewind.**

20 A. The fault is located in the end-winding area of the stator where the windings are
21 secured using an epoxy rich banding material. The epoxy is cured during the
22 winding installation process to produce a solid support structure. The fault
23 occurred at a location under the cured epoxy banding material. The banding
24 material itself was intact and undamaged. Any postulated puncture or impact to

1 the bar occurring after the 2012 rewind would have resulted in damage to the
2 banding material, however no damage to the banding was evident. Any
3 postulated contaminant or particle affecting the insulation would require some
4 path for its introduction to this specific area after the 2012 rewind. As the
5 banding material was fully cured and intact there is no path for the introduction
6 of a contaminant or particulate to this location in the stator windings, and no
7 surrounding areas of the windings adjacent to the banding were affected

8 **Q. Did FPL and Siemens follow established industry standards during the**
9 **original generator rewind in 2012?**

10 A. Yes. FPL and Siemens followed the established industry standards for
11 insulation testing from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
12 (IEEE Standard 95 “IEEE Recommended Practice for Insulation Testing of AC
13 Electric Machinery (2300V and above) with High Direct Voltage”). They also
14 followed the established industry standards for insulation for acceptance testing,
15 which is used to ensure equipment is operating as designed, from the American
16 National Standards Institute (ANSI C50.10 – 1990 “Rotating Electrical
17 Machinery – Synchronous Machines”) during the original generator rewind.
18 Additionally, contract requirements with Siemens for quality assurance were
19 imposed in accordance with industry standards. These included expectations for
20 inspection, testing, packaging, shipping, nonconformance process, customer
21 communication and facilities access for mutually agreed upon witness points.

22 **Q. Were periodic inspections performed on the Unit 1 generator following the**
23 **2012 generator rewind?**

1 A. Yes. The type and frequency of inspections performed on the generator since
2 the rewind adhere to standard industry practice and manufacturing
3 recommendations. Generator inspections were performed by Siemens during
4 every refueling outage since the rewind was completed in 2012. Additionally,
5 generator temperature instruments were replaced during a 2013 refueling
6 outage. Subsequent over-voltage testing was completed after the replacement
7 with no issues. In 2016, a ground condition was detected during outage
8 inspection activities. The ground was outside the generator in the neutral ground
9 transformer bushing. An insulation resistance test was performed on the
10 generator separated from the neutral grounding transformer with satisfactory
11 results. The transformer bushing was repaired and a subsequent test was
12 performed after reconnection to the generator with satisfactory results. Neither
13 of these activities are related to the ground fault in 2019.

14 **Q. How many days was St. Lucie Unit 1 out of service due to this event?**

15 A. FPL moved quickly to restore the unit to service safely and was able to keep the
16 outage to approximately 57 days. Notably, the Siemens generator rewind was
17 conducted safely and more quickly than any similar unscheduled work across the
18 industry. Additionally, while the unit was offline, FPL was able to complete some
19 work originally planned for the fall 2019 refueling outage, thereby reducing the
20 fall 2019 planned outage duration by approximately two days.

21 **Q. Has FPL filed an insurance claim for the reimbursement of costs incurred as
22 a result of this event?**

23 A. Yes. FPL has filed an insurance claim with Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited
24 (“NEIL”) for costs related to the full generator rewind that was performed during

1 this outage. This claim does not include replacement fuel costs, however, because
2 NEIL only covers replacement fuel costs when an outage surpasses 12 weeks.

3 **Q. What is the amount of the insurance claim?**

4 A. FPL has submitted a claim for approximately \$25.9 million for expenses associated
5 with the event. This claim amount is subject to a \$10 million deductible plus a
6 10% quota share for any recoverable amounts plus disallowance of potential non-
7 reimbursable expenses in accordance with the policy.

8 **Q. What is the status of the insurance claim?**

9 A. NEIL is currently reviewing the documentation associated with the claim amount.
10 FPL expects a final coverage decision in the third quarter of this year.

11 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

12 A. Yes, it does.

1 BY MS. MONCADA:

2 Q Mr. Coffey, your July 27 testimony did not
3 include any exhibits, is that correct?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Thank you.

6 Did you also file six pages of prepared
7 testimony in this proceeding on September 3rd, 2020?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Do you have any changes or revisions to that
10 prepared testimony?

11 A No.

12 Q If I asked you today the same questions
13 contained in that testimony, would your answers be the
14 same?

15 A Yes.

16 MS. MONCADA: Mr. Chairman, I would ask that
17 Mr. Coffey's September 3rd testimony be inserted
18 into the record as though read.

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: So ordered.

20 (Whereupon, prefiled direct testimony of
21 Robert Coffey was inserted.)

22

23

24

25

1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**
2 **FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**
3 **TESTIMONY OF ROBERT COFFEY**
4 **DOCKET NO. 20200001-EI**
5 **SEPTEMBER 3, 2020**

6

7 **Q. Please state your name and address.**

8 A. My name is Robert Coffey. My business address is 15430 Endeavor Drive, Jupiter,
9 FL 33478.

10 **Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

11 A. I am employed by Florida Power & Light Company (“FPL”) as Vice President,
12 Nuclear in the Nuclear Business Unit.

13 **Q. Please describe your duties and responsibilities.**

14 A. I am responsible for the Nuclear fleet functional areas of Engineering,
15 Operations, Maintenance, Chemistry, Radiation Protection, Regulatory Affairs,
16 Security, Training, Outages and Projects.

17 **Q. Please describe your educational background and business experience in**
18 **the nuclear industry.**

19 A. I hold a Doctorate of Management in Organizational Leadership from the
20 University of Phoenix, a Masters of Business Administration degree from Regis
21 University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering
22 Technology from Thomas Edison State College. I also earned a Senior Reactor
23 Operator Management Certification at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant.

24

1 I have spent 38 years in the nuclear industry, beginning in the United States
2 Navy Nuclear Submarine Force where I served more than 20 years. I joined
3 FPL in 2003 and held numerous positions of increasing responsibility including
4 Maintenance Director and Work Control Manager at Turkey Point and Plant
5 General Manager at St. Lucie. I was also the Site Vice President of NextEra
6 Energy's Point Beach Nuclear Plant and Vice President of the Southern Region
7 for St. Lucie and Turkey Point before serving in my current role as Vice
8 President, Nuclear.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

10 A. My testimony presents and explains FPL's projections of nuclear fuel costs for the
11 thermal energy to be produced by our nuclear units measured in million British
12 thermal units or ("MMBtu"). Nuclear fuel costs were input values to the
13 GenTrader model that is used to calculate the costs included in the proposed fuel
14 cost recovery factors for the period January 2021 through December 2021. I am
15 also supporting FPL's projected 2021 incremental plant security and Fukushima-
16 related costs. Finally, I address 2020 outage events at FPL's nuclear units.

17

18 **Nuclear Fuel Costs**

19 **Q. What is the basis for FPL's projections of nuclear fuel costs?**

20 A. FPL's nuclear fuel cost projections are developed using projected energy
21 production at its nuclear units and current operating schedules for the period
22 January 2021 through December 2021.

23 **Q. Please provide FPL's projection for nuclear fuel unit costs and energy for the**
24 **period January 2021 through December 2021.**

1 A. FPL projects the nuclear units will burn 296,846,059 MMBtu of energy at a cost
2 of \$0.4955 per MMBtu for the period January 2021 through December 2021.
3 Projections by nuclear unit and by month are listed in Appendix II, on Schedule E-
4 4, starting on page 17, which is attached as an exhibit to FPL witness Deaton's
5 testimony.

6

7 **Nuclear Plant Incremental Security Costs**

8 **Q. What is FPL's projection of incremental security costs at its nuclear power**
9 **plants for the period January 2021 through December 2021?**

10 A. FPL projects that it will incur \$34.3 million in incremental nuclear power plant
11 security costs in 2021. The costs consist of \$3.5 million of capital expenditures
12 and \$30.8 million of O&M expenses.

13 **Q. Please provide a brief description of the items included in incremental nuclear**
14 **power plant security costs.**

15 A. The projection includes the additional costs incurred in maintaining a security force
16 as a result of implementing the NRC's fitness-for-duty rule under 10 CFR Part 26,
17 which strictly limits the number of hours that nuclear security personnel may work;
18 additional personnel training; maintenance of the physical upgrades resulting from
19 implementing the NRC's physical security rule under 10 CFR Part 73; and impacts
20 of implementing the NRC's cyber security rule under 10 CFR Part 73. It also
21 includes force-on-force modifications at the St. Lucie and Turkey Point nuclear
22 sites to effectively mitigate new adversary tactics and capabilities employed by the
23 NRC's Composite Adversary Force, as required by NRC inspection procedures.

1 **Fukushima-Related Costs**

2 **Q. What is FPL's projection of Fukushima-related costs at its nuclear power**
3 **plants for the period January 2021 through December 2021?**

4 A. FPL's current projection of Fukushima-related costs for 2021 is approximately
5 \$1.3 million of O&M expenses.

6 **Q. Please provide a brief description of the items included in this projection of**
7 **Fukushima-related costs.**

8 A. The projection includes FPL's share of costs incurred for equipment, storage,
9 and transportation, to support the shared Regional Response Centers, a
10 warehouse of off-site portable equipment shared by the industry.

11

12 **2020 Unplanned Outage Events**

13 **Q. Has FPL experienced any unplanned outages at any of its nuclear plants in**
14 **2020?**

15 A. Yes. In March 2020, St. Lucie Unit 2 experienced a delay in return to service
16 following the refueling outage associated with the planned replacement of a
17 6900 volt electrical switchgear required for plant operation; in July 2020, Turkey
18 Point Unit 4 shut down due to a main generator lock out from a loss of exciter ;
19 and in August 2020, Turkey Point Unit 3 shut down in response to rising steam
20 generator levels. FPL's response to each unplanned outage was appropriate and
21 efficient, and the units were returned to service safely.

22 **Q. Please describe the circumstances related to the St. Lucie Unit 2 switchgear**
23 **replacement modification.**

1 A. During the Spring 2020 outage, FPL performed a planned replacement of a 6900
2 volt electrical switchgear required for plant operation. An interfacing equipment
3 configuration conflict was discovered during project implementation.
4 Additional work scope and increased implementation duration was required to
5 address the discovered condition.

6 **Q. What corrective actions have been initiated to address this event?**

7 A. The interface configuration conflict was resolved during the refueling outage
8 and no further technical corrective action is required. Other corrective actions
9 were implemented to improve administrative processes associated with design
10 engineering function collaboration, communication, and oversight.

11 **Q. How many days was the St. Lucie Unit 2 outage delayed due to this event?**

12 A. The Unit 2 outage delay due to 6900 volt electrical switchgear replacement
13 modification was approximately 2 days.

14 **Q. Please describe the circumstances related to a main generator lock out from
15 a loss of exciter that impacted Turkey Point Unit 4.**

16 A. In July 2020, Turkey Point Unit 4 automatically shut down due to an electrical
17 trip of the main generator caused by loss of excitation. FPL determined the
18 Permanent Magnet Generator (“PMG”) malfunctioned.

19 **Q. What corrective actions have been initiated to address this event?**

20 A. FPL replaced the PMG with a spare. FPL is currently in the process of
21 investigating and evaluating this outage.

22 **Q. How many days was Turkey Point Unit 4 out of service due to this event?**

23 A. The Unit 4 outage due to a main generator lock out from a loss of exciter was
24 approximately 15 days.

1 **Q. Please describe the circumstances related to a rise in steam generator levels**
2 **that impacted Turkey Point Unit 3.**

3 A. In August 2020, a control valve at Turkey Point Unit 3 unexpectedly opened,
4 which caused a turbine load reduction. This sequence of events led to a rise in
5 steam generator levels, and a manual reactor trip was performed in accordance
6 with plant procedures. During startup from this outage, the reactor protection
7 system automatically shut the reactor down when an instrument sensed higher
8 than expected neutron flux in the reactor. While in power ascension from this
9 outage, the unit was manually shut down due to steam generator water level
10 control issues that resulted in the operating steam generator feed pump tripping
11 on low suction pressure. The trip occurred due to abnormal valve alignment on
12 the steam generator feed pumps. This valve alignment was restored to normal.

13 **Q. What corrective actions have been initiated to address these events?**

14 A. FPL performed the necessary repairs to return the unit back online. FPL is
15 currently in the process of investigating and evaluating this outage.

16 **Q. How many days was Turkey Point Unit 3 out of service due to these events?**

17 A. The Unit 3 outage due to these events was approximately 6 days.

18 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

19 A. Yes, it does.

1 BY MS. MONCADA:

2 Q Mr. Coffey, your September 3rd testimony as
3 well did not include any exhibits, is that right?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Thank you.

6 Did you prepare a summary of your July and
7 September testimonies?

8 A I did. Yes.

9 Q Could you please provide that summary to the
10 Commission?

11 A Yes.

12 Good afternoon Commissioners. My testimony
13 discussed an unplanned outage and an outage extension in
14 April 2019 and March 2020. For both events the
15 appropriate actions were taken --

16 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Coffey, one moment --

17 THE WITNESS: -- units were restored and --

18 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Mr. Coffey --

19 THE WITNESS: -- in April 2019, St. Lucie Unit
20 1 automatically shut down in response to a
21 generator ground fault. The ground fault was
22 attributed to an insulation defect located in a
23 stator bar; however, the exact cause could not be
24 definitively confirmed. The three possible causes
25 were: Contaminants introduced during original

1 manufacturing, a particle introduced during
2 installation in 2012, or impact damage during
3 handling installation in 2012. All three potential
4 causes would have gradually degraded insulation
5 over the course over the next seven years.

6 We know it to be manufacturing or installation
7 issue because any other defect would require a path
8 for its introduction. In this case, a path did not
9 exist because the fault was located beneath the
10 epoxy banding material that was installed during
11 original installation. The material was intact and
12 undamaged.

13 Subsequently, it was determined a full rewind
14 of the generator was the best course of action to
15 achieve maximum reliability. Leading up to the
16 2012 generator rewind, FPL and Siemens followed all
17 established industry standards for testing.

18 Additionally, contract requirements for
19 quality assurance were imposed in accordance with
20 industry standards and included mutually agreed
21 upon witness points.

22 Periodic inspections were also performed on
23 the Unit 1 generator in every outage since the 2012
24 generator rewind. The type and frequency of these
25 inspections adhered to standard industry practice

1 and manufacturing recommendations.

2 Following the generator fault in 2019, FPL
3 moved quickly to restore the unit to service
4 safely, and was able to complete the outage in 57
5 days. This duration was more expeditious than any
6 similar unplanned rewind performed in the industry.

7 Additionally, while the unit was off-line, FPL
8 was able to complete some work originally planned
9 for the fall 2019 refueling outage, thereby
10 reducing that outage duration by approximately two
11 days.

12 In March 2020, St. Lucie Unit 2 experienced a
13 delay in return-to-service during the refueling
14 outage. This was the result of a planned
15 replacement of a 6900-volt electrical switchgear
16 required for plant operation. An equipment
17 configuration conflict was discovered during
18 project implementation. The configuration issue
19 required additional time to address the needed
20 change. The technical cause of the
21 return-to-service delay was resolved during that
22 refueling outage, and no further technical
23 corrective action was required.

24 In summary, FPL's actions for both events were
25 appropriate and reasonable.

1 Thank you very much for your time. This
2 concludes my summary.

3 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Ms. Moncada.

4 MS. MONCADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
5 Coffey is available for cross.

6 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. Thank you.

7 Mr. Coffey, we had a little bit of trouble.
8 You are breaking up some. I don't know what the
9 cause is there, but we were having a little bit of
10 trouble hearing the first part of your summary
11 there, so be cognizant, we may have to stop you and
12 get you to clarify for us.

13 All right. With that, Mr. Rehwinkel, it's
14 your witness.

15 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Good afternoon, Mr. Coffey.

17 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon, Mr. Rehwinkel.

18 MR. REHWINKEL: Mr. Chairman, before we get
19 under way, I just want to state for the record, in
20 the Prehearing Order, there is a, I will call it an
21 embargo requirement on exhibits used in
22 cross-examination, and I just want to state for the
23 record that we lifted that embargo, if you will, as
24 to the company, and so if Mr. Coffey has exhibits
25 with him, I don't want anybody to think that it was

1 because the company was in violation of that
2 requirement.

3 And in that regard, I would like to just ask
4 Mr. Coffey if you have Exhibits 2 through 9
5 available to you?

6 THE WITNESS: I do have Exhibits 2 through 9
7 available to me.

8 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Rehwinkel.

10 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

11 **Q If you could tell me what is your functional**
12 **area of responsibility just briefly?**

13 A Yes, Mr. Rehwinkel. My functional area of
14 responsibility is I am the Vice-President of Nuclear at
15 Florida Power & Light corporate offices, and so I am --
16 I am the executive over governance and oversight
17 operations of our nuclear -- nuclear operating units.

18 **Q Is that the four units in Florida, or does it**
19 **include Point Beach, Duane Arnold and Seabrook?**

20 A It is -- yes, it is the four units in Florida,
21 and it is also Point Beach and Seabrook, Duane Arnold
22 has recently gone into decommissioning.

23 **Q Okay. You state that you have an engineering**
24 **responsibility in that area. Does that include the --**
25 **what's known as the Engineering Operation Support**

1 **Services, EOSS?**

2 A It is -- yes, it is, Mr. Rehwinkel.

3 Q Okay. And outages and projects, is that -- is
4 that a reference to planned outages, or does it incur --
5 does it encompass forced or unplanned outages as well?

6 A It encompasses both planned outages and forced
7 outages as far as the governance and oversight of those
8 activities. And then I also have the project
9 organization reports through me, and so major projects I
10 direct oversight of, as well as governance and
11 oversight.

12 Q Okay. So an uprate would be an example of a
13 project, a very large project that you would be
14 responsible for --

15 A Yes, that's --

16 Q -- in your job --

17 A Yes, that's correct.

18 Q Okay. Now, in your background, just for the
19 context of our discussion and cross-examination today,
20 you are a nuclear engineer, is that correct?

21 A That's -- yes, that's correct.

22 Q That's both by education and training --

23 A Yes, that's --

24 Q -- is that right?

25 A Yes, that's correct.

1 Q And I noticed that you were in the Nuclear
2 Navy. I think you started there in around 1983, is that
3 right?

4 A Yes. Yes, 1982 until 2003.

5 Q Okay. So you started the year that Hyman
6 Rickover retired, but you were in the organization that
7 he built, and for which his principles were carried
8 forward, is that right?

9 A Yes, that's absolutely correct.

10 Q Okay. And that's a source of pride for you,
11 is that right?

12 A Yes, that's right.

13 Q Okay. There was a noted culture of integrity
14 and safety in that Rickover established Nuclear Navy, is
15 that right?

16 A Yes, that's absolutely correct.

17 Q It's world famous, and when compared to other
18 navies, it was beyond compare, is that right?

19 A That was my -- that was my belief, yes, that's
20 correct. I don't have knowledge of the other navies,
21 but I believe that to be true.

22 Q Sure. And as plant general manager, was that
23 of both the St. Lucie units?

24 A I was the plant manager from 2012 to 2016 at
25 the St. Lucie units, yes.

1 **Q** **Okay. That's -- you are more like the site**
2 **general manager because you cover both 1 and 2?**

3 **A** **Yes. I was the site general manager of Units**
4 **opinion and Units 2 from the tail end of 2012 until 2016**
5 **when I moved on to Point Beach.**

6 **Q** **Okay. Now, Point Beach is a NextEra, I will**
7 **call it a merchant plant, is that fair?**

8 **A** **Yes, that's correct.**

9 **Q** **Okay. And it's in Wisconsin?**

10 **A** **It is in Wisconsin, just south of Greenbay.**

11 **Q** **Okay. Now, when you were Vice-President for**
12 **the Southern Region, does that, in the FPL nuclear**
13 **organization, does that separate those responsibilities**
14 **to just the four Florida units as compared to the -- the**
15 **other units in the NextEra fleet?**

16 **A** **When I was the Regional Vice-President of the**
17 **South, I was the executive in charge of Turkey Point and**
18 **St. Lucie plants, and it was separated from the north.**

19 **Q** **Okay. But your responsibility now as VP**
20 **Nuclear is you are responsible for both the south region**
21 **and whatever the other region is, is that right?**

22 **A** **The governance and oversight elements of it,**
23 **and the applicable portions of the support and perform**
24 **activities like projects, that's right.**

25 **Q** **Okay. Now, I notice in your testimony you**

1 said that when -- when you were in Turkey Point, you
2 received a senior reactor operator license, is that
3 right?

4 A That is correct. Not license, so that's
5 partially correct. I received a senior management
6 certification. I did not go to the 18-month license
7 class. It was a compressed management certification
8 class for five months.

9 Q Okay. So you were an operator, but you don't
10 hold a license as the NRC understands it, is that right?

11 A I was operator for 21 years in the Nuclear
12 Navy, and then I was -- I predominantly specialized in
13 maintenance and engineering on the non-Navy side of the
14 house. But operations is something that I have grown up
15 with and been a part of for 35 -- almost 35 years in
16 nuclear now.

17 Q Okay. The reference to -- I just -- I want to
18 understand, if you give me a moment.

19 So the senior reactor operator management
20 certification -- and I know I misstated that by saying
21 license, your testimony says certification -- is that
22 still in -- do you still hold that certification?

23 A I do. Yes. I did -- I went to that class. I
24 took those examinations. I tested on that simulator,
25 and I still hold that certification.

1 To meet the minimum qualifications to be a
2 plant manager, you either have to have been previously
3 licensed or have gone through a management certification
4 class that gives you the equivalent schooling and
5 practice and technical abilities to be able to do it,
6 and I did the latter.

7 **Q Okay. So you generally -- well, you have the**
8 **requisite familiarity with NRC requirements with respect**
9 **to the operations of a licensed facility, is that**
10 **correct?**

11 A Absolutely, on multiple different units.

12 **Q Okay. I want to spend most of the time today**
13 **talking to you about your July 27th, 2020, testimony, so**
14 **if you have that with you.**

15 A Just one second. Okay, I have that with me.
16 It's open.

17 **Q Okay. Now, this testimony is the testimony**
18 **you submitted in this docket that addresses the April**
19 **25th, 2019, through June 21, 2019, forced outage at**
20 **Plant St. Lucie Unit 2, is that right?**

21 A Unit 1, sir.

22 **Q Unit 1?**

23 A Yes, sir.

24 **Q Is there a difference in your mind as to an**
25 **unplanned outage versus a forced outage? Are they one**

1 in the same or is there a different?

2 A Forced outage and unplanned outage is of the
3 same.

4 Q Okay. Do you call the St. Lucie Unit 1, do
5 you sometimes call it PSL 1?

6 A We do. We call it PSL 1.

7 Q Okay. So if I say PSL 1 in my questions, we
8 know I mean plant -- St. Lucie Plant Unit 1 --

9 A Yes, that's correct.

10 Q -- and PSL 2 would be Unit 2, right?

11 A Yes, that's correct.

12 Q Okay. And then if we go to page two of
13 your -- your testimony, lines eight and nine. You state
14 the purpose of your testimony as: My testimony
15 discusses the unplanned outage at St. Lucie Unit 1 in
16 April 2019, is that right?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Okay. And in that discussion, as you put it,
19 that discussion, as you -- as you refer to it, continues
20 on through page six, line 12, is that right?

21 A Let me make sure -- that's correct. Yes.

22 Q Okay. And I apologize. I said I was going to
23 refer to this. I need to take a little detour and go to
24 your September 3rd testimony if we can just for a
25 second.

1 A Okay. I am there, sir.

2 Q All right. In that testimony, on page four,
3 beginning on line 12, through the remainder of that
4 testimony on page six, this is your testimony where you
5 discuss other unplanned outages at St. Lucie Unit 2 and
6 Turkey Point Units 3 and 4; is that right?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. And just to be clear, the September 3rd
9 testimony does not in any way discuss the April 29 St.
10 Lucie Unit 1 forced outage, does it?

11 A It does not.

12 Q Okay. And I think, as your counsel indicated,
13 there is no exhibit to either of your testimonies, the
14 27th of July or the 3rd of September, is that right?

15 A That's right.

16 Q So the sole evidence that you are presenting
17 today in this hearing is confined to the testimony on --
18 in your July 27th testimony with regard to the April
19 2019 forced outage at PSL 1, is that right?

20 A No. It was on the Unit 1 generator outage in
21 April, but it was also on the delay in return-to-service
22 that's on page four of the September testimony for the
23 delay in return to service on Unit 2 for the switchgear
24 delay.

25 Q Okay. I probably didn't ask that question

1 right.

2 What I was trying to make sure the record is
3 clear on is -- let me ask it this way: With respect to
4 the PSL 1, April 2019 outage, the evidence that you are
5 presenting to the Commission is confined to your July
6 27th, 2020, prefiled testimony; is that right?

7 A Yeah, I am sorry. I misunderstood the
8 previous question. Yes, that's correct.

9 Q I don't think I asked it the right way.

10 And so as far as your prefiled testimony, it's
11 confined to that, and then whatever else you testify to
12 today, right?

13 A Correct.

14 Q All right. If you know, when a utility like
15 FPL has an un -- has an unplanned outage, you incur
16 replacement power costs, is that correct?

17 A Yes, that's correct.

18 Q Okay. In addition to replacement power costs,
19 you would also agree that there may be extra O&M and
20 capital costs related to an unplanned outage; is that
21 right?

22 A Yes, that's right.

23 Q Okay. On your July 27th testimony at page
24 two, can you read for me the response to the question --
25 read aloud for me the response to the question that is

1 **on page -- on line 10?**

2 A On line 10, okay.

3 **Q You can read the question, too.**

4 A Please describe the unplanned outage that
5 occurred in April 2019.

6 In April 2019, St. Lucie Unit 1 automatically
7 shut down in response to a generator ground fault.
8 FPL's response to the unplanned outage was appropriate
9 and efficient, and the unit was returned to service
10 safely.

11 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Before we proceed on,
12 Mr. Chairman, I am not having trouble hearing Mr.
13 Coffey, but when he was reading that answer, it
14 seemed to me there -- a little bit of garbling in
15 there, and I just wanted to make sure that it
16 wasn't reflected that way in the hearing room or
17 the court reporter.

18 CHAIRMAN CLARK: It sounded good here. The
19 court reporter, did you get all of it?

20 COURT REPORTER: Yes, sir, I did.

21 CHAIRMAN CLARK: We're all clear.

22 MR. REHWINKEL: I just was just checking
23 because it -- the quality vacillated a little bit
24 on my end.

25 CHAIRMAN CLARK: No problem.

1 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

2 Q Okay. Can you tell me your definition of the
3 phrase appropriate and efficient as you use it in that
4 answer?

5 A Yeah. So the way I would characterize that,
6 Mr. Rehwinkel, is that we took the time that we needed
7 to troubleshoot and investigate the cause of that ground
8 fault, and then we put a plan together to resolve that
9 issue using the appropriate decision-making processes
10 that we have in nuclear. Then we constructed a schedule
11 and determined who we would select to do that work, and
12 we conducted that work in a manner which we believe was
13 safe and efficient, and then we restored the generator
14 service. And I could back that up with several facts
15 that we learned throughout the process of the root cause
16 and such, but I will wait for your questions.

17 Q Okay. Thank you.

18 And just so I understand, this answer here is
19 directed at what happened when the outage was
20 discovered. It doesn't address anything that happened
21 before the ground fault tripped the unit, is that right?

22 A That's right.

23 Q Okay. And the -- the -- would it be fair to
24 say that the response that you describe in your
25 testimony here is the sum of the actions that FPL

1 **nuclear organization, in general, and the St. Lucie**
2 **station personnel specifically took to address the**
3 **outage?**

4 A Yes, I would say that's a fair statement, Mr.
5 Rehwinkel. I will tell you that when we initially filed
6 this -- this testimony, we didn't have the input of the
7 completed root cause on exactly why it occurred yet. So
8 some of the information was not as descriptive as we
9 would have liked it to be, but we didn't have the final
10 product of the root cause completed yet. That didn't
11 get completed and signed off until August 19th, and so
12 we wanted to make sure we didn't put anything in the
13 testimony that might be concluded as inaccurate.

14 Q Okay. Well, as you may have guessed from the
15 **exhibits, I have some questions about some of the**
16 **documents in here, and so I think we can get to that and**
17 **your responses to those.**

18 A Thank you, sir.

19 Q Okay. How many -- an outage of this type as a
20 **unit like PSL 1 is a significant matter that gets the**
21 **attention of the organization, correct?**

22 A Absolutely. I would say that an outage of
23 this magnitude is one of the more difficult outages
24 without the forthought of the 18 months of planning,
25 it's one of the more difficult ones to recover from.

1 Q So there are a lot of individuals from the
2 lowest level in the organization all the way to the top,
3 which is you, you and above, that are focused on
4 resolving this issue; is that right?

5 A Yes. Absolutely.

6 Q Okay. If I look on page two, lines -- and
7 starting with the question on line 14 through line 23,
8 is it fair to say that this testimony blames Siemens for
9 introducing the mechanism that caused the fault in the
10 unit either before -- in or before 2012?

11 A I would -- I would say that we didn't go as
12 far as to lay blame. We did go as far as to say that
13 the root cause concluded those three causes happened
14 while it was in the custody of Siemens to implement
15 their portion of that contract.

16 Now, whether or not that occurred at the
17 Siemens facility or with resin that was made outside of
18 Siemens, we didn't make those conclusions, but it was
19 within the contractual confines of Siemens to perform
20 this work, and it was not -- it didn't -- we didn't get
21 the results that we expected, obviously.

22 Q Okay. I used the word blame because that's
23 just kind of a walking around term, but you say on line
24 20, FPL believes, and I believe your counsel in the
25 opening, and you in your summary, laid the

1 responsibility for this -- the mechanism that caused the
2 fault at the seat of Siemens, is that fair?

3 A That's fair.

4 Q Okay. Now, it states here in your testimony
5 that FPL investigated the cause of the fault, but that,
6 quote, it could not be definitively confirmed, is that
7 right?

8 A That's correct. Yes.

9 Q Now, the investigation that is referred to in
10 your testimony, is that essentially all of the process
11 that led up to and includes the RCE, or the root
12 cause -- what's the E stand for --

13 A Evaluation.

14 Q -- evaluation?

15 A Yes. Siemens -- Siemens and Florida Power &
16 Light both separately, us by our process, and Siemens by
17 theirs, performed root cause evaluations. In those root
18 cause evaluations, ours did not have Siemens as part of
19 our team, and Siemens did not have us as part of their
20 team, and both of those evaluations came to the same
21 conclusions on it was one of the three things that I
22 list in my testimony, but there was no way with the
23 forensics evidence we have in the condition it was in we
24 could determine which of the three was the -- was the
25 exact cause, but we know one of those three was the

1 cause.

2 Q Okay. And if I can ask, and I am not trying
3 to -- to strike out at you in your answers, I am going
4 to ask you questions about the FPL RCE, some people call
5 it an RCA, root cause analysis. They are
6 interchangeable terms, right?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q So if I say RCA, you will know I mean what you
9 call an RCE, and vice-versa, right?

10 A Yes. Absolutely.

11 Q Okay. And at other thing I would ask for
12 purposes of this, and this is just because we are
13 dealing with confidential information, the -- the
14 Exhibit 8 that I have asked you to look at is the FPL
15 RCE, but it is a redacted public version; is that your
16 understanding?

17 A I did not know -- I did not know that yours
18 was a redacted public version, I probably should have,
19 but, no, I did not know that.

20 Q Okay. And just -- just -- I would like to ask
21 you if you refer to it, or answer questions from my
22 direction to you to look at it, please use the redacted
23 version so we can be sure that you don't verbalize any
24 information that's not -- that's blacked out in the
25 redacted version, is that understandable?

1 A Yes, that's understandable.

2 Q Okay. And likewise, if I could, the Siemens
3 RCE, I think, is Exhibit 4C?

4 A Correct.

5 Q And it is confidential in its entirety?

6 A That's right.

7 Q At least that's the claim.

8 So what I am getting at is I would like, for
9 purposes of logistics here, is to keep inadvertent
10 disclosure of confidential information is to not refer
11 to the Siemens report unless I ask you a specific
12 question about it, if that's at all possible. I just
13 don't want to have cross-examination and you reveal
14 something in the cements report while trying to
15 synthesize it with the FPL RCE; does that make sense?

16 A It absolutely makes sense, and I am prepared
17 to not discuss the confidential aspects of the Siemens
18 root cause. We don't have any confidential aspects on
19 the -- on the FPL root cause, so I will be able to speak
20 in that way.

21 Q Okay.

22 MR. REHWINKEL: And, Maria, I just -- I am not
23 trying to limit your witness, I just want to be
24 very careful, because I put -- I put several
25 confidential exhibits out here, and I want to try

1 to stay in the lane, if you will.

2 MS. MONCADA: Understood, Mr. Rehwinkel.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.

5 MS. HELTON: Mr. Chairman, can I just -- for
6 purposes of the record, so, Mr. Rehwinkel, were you
7 planning on asking for your Exhibit No. 8 to be
8 identified as Exhibit 53 for the record, and then
9 your Exhibit 4C to be identified as Exhibit 54?

10 MR. REHWINKEL: Well, right now, I think --
11 let me see. I have -- I don't know what my first
12 exhibit is.

13 I am not trying to identify them right now,
14 Ms. Helton. I just -- I got an answer there that
15 made me concerned because it was an answer about
16 what Siemens and FPL came to the conclusion of.
17 And I just wanted to make sure that we -- we
18 kept -- kept them separated. It's my fault that I
19 didn't make these ground rules when we first
20 started.

21 MS. HELTON: Okay. I am just trying to make
22 sure we are clearly identifying in the record what
23 you are wanting to put in the record so we are all
24 talking from the same page.

25 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Yeah, I am not at a

1 point, I don't think, to -- to identify the -- the
2 FPL RCE at this point.

3 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

4 Q Okay. Let's go to page three of your -- your
5 July 27th testimony.

6 A All right.

7 Q And on line 18 through page four, line 21, you
8 discuss some information related to the 2012 rewind, is
9 that right?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And this rewind was part of the uprate that
12 was undertaken at both PSL 1 and PSL 2, is that right?

13 A Yes, that's correct.

14 Q Okay. That was not something that was under
15 your purview at that time, is that right?

16 A I was -- well, yes and no is the way I will
17 answer that, and that is I was -- I was involved with --
18 at the time that this was happening, I was at the Unit 3
19 uprate as the Maintenance Director at Turkey Point.
20 However, our fleet, all of our fleet nuclear sites, they
21 read the condition reports, reports that we write every
22 day, of every one of the sites, and we all have
23 responsibility to govern and oversee and support and
24 perform at our own sites, as well as challenging the
25 other three sites.

1 So I was not -- so I was definitely familiar
2 with the goings on of what was going on at St. Lucie as
3 a director at Turkey Point at the time, but I wasn't the
4 direct -- I didn't have any direct reports that were
5 there.

6 Q Okay. Thank you.

7 I am going to ask you a question here, and
8 it's a long question, and if you don't understand it,
9 either you or your counsel can say so and I will
10 rephrase it, but I am trying to see if I understand the
11 gist of page three, line 18 through page four, line
12 seven.

13 And as I read that testimony, you summarize
14 FPL's logical basis for concluding that the fault
15 inducing causal mechanism had to have been introduced to
16 the plant through the rewind work that was performed in
17 early 2012 either as part of the manufacture or
18 construction of the generator's stator bar 17, or during
19 the actual on-site rewind work, both of which were
20 performed by or through a Siemens -- through Siemens or
21 a Siemens subcontractor?

22 A Yes, that's correct.

23 Q Okay. I believe in your summary you stated --
24 and it may be in your testimony as well -- that as a
25 part of that logic, that the particle, or the fault

1 mechanism could not have been introduced after the
2 completion of the uprate in 2012 because there was no
3 path --

4 A Yes.

5 Q -- for that fault causing mechanism to be
6 introduced into the generator, is that fair?

7 A Yes, and I would just expand on that a little
8 bit. As those machines are built out during a rewind,
9 they get disassembled down to parade rest. And then
10 when they are built back up, the foundation iron work
11 starts, then the coils are set in in a specific pattern.
12 And then after that, there is banding material,
13 insulation material that's installed and epoxyed, and
14 that outer banding material and epoxy was undamaged, so
15 there was no path external to that material.

16 Q Okay. Let me ask you, if you can, to turn
17 to -- do you have Exhibit 7C?

18 A I do.

19 Q You know this is a confidential exhibit.

20 A It is.

21 Q And I want to ask you --

22 MR. REHWINKEL: Mr. Chairman, I guess I want
23 to identify Exhibit 7C as the next exhibit.

24 CHAIRMAN CLARK: What's that number?

25 MS. BROWNLESS: It's 53.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. We will mark it
2 as Exhibit 53.

3 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.

4 (Whereupon, Exhibit No. 53 was marked for
5 identification.)

6 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

7 Q So I am not sure that this is an entirely
8 relevant document. It is dated -- it's for a service
9 event that occurred in 2018, is that right?

10 A Yes, that's correct. This was -- just for
11 information, Mr. Rehwinkel, this -- this is the actual
12 inspection on Unit 2 that occurred at its seven-year
13 frequency that would have occurred in 2019 in the fall
14 outage had the rewind, the emergent rewind, or the
15 unplanned rewind not occurred. So -- and as a matter of
16 fact, this document is what was used to confirm that
17 there was no extended condition on Unit 2, similar to
18 Unit 1.

19 Q Okay. And I want to ask you about Bates page
20 five.

21 A Okay, I am there.

22 Q And I know this relates to Unit 2, but
23 without -- since it's confidential, without getting into
24 the details, you see there is some nameplate type
25 information at the top, and then a sentence, and then

1 **there is a -- a paragraph with some bullets and**
2 **subbullets; do you see that?**

3 A Yes.

4 Q **Okay. Would it be fair to say that these type**
5 **of activities were routine inspection activities that**
6 **would -- that a main generator would undergo?**

7 A Yes. Some of them -- some of them are
8 activities that happen every outage, like a generator
9 crawl-thru -- and when we say crawl-thru, we don't
10 necessarily mean a human. There is robotics involved as
11 well. And others of them, like the -- like the
12 insulation testing, the high voltage insulation testing
13 that's discussed in here are done at other intervals.
14 Those are typically done every seven years because those
15 are over the rate of voltage of the machine to make sure
16 that you don't have any issues when you are doing that
17 testing.

18 Q **Okay. So I think you are -- you are answering**
19 **the question that I want. So at Unit 1, these same type**
20 **of activities would have occurred after the rewind**
21 **was -- was completed, maybe not the exact same, but**
22 **similar types of activities, is it that fair?**

23 A Well, the exact same, but the answer is
24 actually yes/no again, because some of them -- the high
25 potential testing that I talk about, for example, the

1 manufacturers in OEM, the original equipment
2 manufacturer recommendations in the industry standard is
3 to do that every seven years, and the generator
4 crawl-thrus is every outage.

5 So some of them are done every outage and some
6 of them are done at specified intervals. And the -- and
7 the rewind was done in 2012 on Unit 1. There was a
8 subsequent repair that was done in 2013, which had high
9 voltage testing done, so it wasn't coming due until
10 2019, but we didn't get there before we conducted that
11 high potential testing.

12 So -- so, yes, we were consistent on year one
13 and two in all our units with doing the manufacturing --
14 manufacturer recommendations for maintenance and
15 testing.

16 **Q Okay. Thank you.**

17 **The high -- high potential testing, for**
18 **example, that's not an invasive test, is that right?**

19 A Well, yeah -- well, it depends on how you
20 determine invasive.

21 And so these -- the generators themselves
22 operate at 22,000 volts, and the high potential testing
23 exposes them to 76,000 volts. So you are putting three
24 times as much voltage on it to make sure that you are
25 not going to have a path for current to ground, and so

1 you don't want to do that too often because you are
2 actually putting an overvoltage condition on the machine
3 to make sure the windings are there.

4 So I would consider it invasive just because
5 it's operating for the small period of that test above
6 its nameplate rating.

7 **Q Okay. Fair enough.**

8 **The crawl-thru, as you indicated -- and you**
9 **anticipated by question -- it's done by a robot, not a**
10 **person?**

11 A The -- not totally. The portions that can't
12 be done without using robotics are done with a robot.
13 The ones that can be done with a person, they are done
14 visually with somebody with proper lighting and
15 magnifying materials that they use. So it's a mix
16 depending on the inspection.

17 **Q Okay. So what I am trying to understand here**
18 **is in context of your testimony, where I asked you that**
19 **question about your logic about saying it had to be**
20 **Siemens, and it had to be 2012 or earlier. In contrast**
21 **to the crawl-thru that would be similar type of testing,**
22 **how would you have ensured that there was no path into**
23 **the unit for a foreign material to be introduced in**
24 **those post 2012 inspections?**

25 A Well, I will tell you, the -- well, first off

1 the foreign material question is a good question,
2 because it's -- two of the three causes have something
3 to do with foreign material, whether it's a contaminant
4 or whether it's the magnetic termite, the small
5 particle.

6 And I first start off by saying that our
7 Florida Power & Light Foreign Material Exclusion
8 Program, it strives to maintain perfection even though
9 we know perfection is not -- is not something that can
10 always be achieved. We strive for it in great detail.
11 In our assessment of our FME program is that it's
12 strong, because what it does, Mr. Rehwinkel, when we
13 operate and go into these maintenance activities, it has
14 several key elements to it. It controls the
15 environment, up to and including atmosphere controls,
16 barricades, watches. When I mean watches, I mean people
17 that actually are guarding the area so no one can go
18 into the area, and they log things in and out of those
19 areas.

20 We schedule the activity such that there is
21 clear separation between demolition activities and
22 rebuild activities. And in between those, we insert
23 cleaning activities, vacuum, wash, inspection activities
24 and testing activities to make sure that those items
25 aren't there.

1 Once the construction activities are
2 completed, all the witness points are done and all the
3 testing is done, then we maintain that FME program any
4 time we crack the doors to go, or break barriers to go
5 into that machine, it's called our FME a zone, high
6 critical zone, and we maintain those strict controls
7 when we are getting into that machine, and so the same
8 rigor applies.

9 **Q Okay. And just for the record, you say FME,**
10 **that's foreign material exclusion, is that right?**

11 A Yes. Yes, that's correct, foreign material
12 exclusion. It's basically establishing a surgical room
13 type of atmosphere.

14 **Q Can you clear up something for me in this**
15 **context? I was going to ask it later, but I will go**
16 **ahead and bring it up now.**

17 **I read several places in the RCE and maybe**
18 **some of the other materials that the rewind was on-site?**

19 A Yes.

20 (Whereupon, the hearing room lost live
21 videoconference connection.)

22 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

23 **Q Can you educate me on that, is were there some**
24 **activities that you might consider rewind that were done**
25 **at a factory or fabrication place versus actually on the**

1 **PSL 1 site?**

2 A Yes. And so the actual coils themselves and
3 the rewind kit is something that's built off-site at
4 vendor facilities, and so -- and when I talk about
5 insulation activities, Mr. Rehwinkel, some of them
6 happen at the factory, when they do those coils and they
7 build those coils out, and that laminated materials are
8 those or those bindings, and they are insulated at the
9 factory and brought to the site as a rebuild kit. Like
10 the one we did in 2019, an entire rebuild kit was sent
11 to the site, but that site was manufactured externally.

12 If by chance this contaminant was caught up in
13 the resin of one of those items that was at the site, it
14 took seven years for itself to work its way out of
15 there, but it was underneath all of that banding
16 material that I talked about.

17 So all of the build of the coils and the
18 underneath, laying iron and such like that, is done
19 external to the site, and then that comes to the site,
20 the machine gets taken down to parade rest. And using
21 those materials they build that machine back up again,
22 and so that's exactly what that is.

23 **Q Are you saying parade rest?**

24 A Yeah, I probably shouldn't use a military
25 term. You take it down to a hollow empty core of a

1 machine.

2 Q Okay. I am being told my audio is down. I
3 don't know if --

4 A I can hear you just fine.

5 Q Okay.

6 MS. MONCADA: I can hear you fine, Mr.
7 Rehwinkel.

8 MR. REHWINKEL: I don't see the Chairman.

9 THE WITNESS: It looks like --

10 MS. MONCADA: Yeah, we lost him.

11 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I had a message from the
12 Chairman, he said that the audio is paused, the
13 meeting is paused, we lost signal, so let's just
14 hold on a moment.

15 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.

16 MS. MONCADA: Sure.

17 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Why don't we take a
18 10-minute recess. Let's reconvene -- just stay on,
19 we will reconvene at 2:30.

20 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you.

21 (Brief recess.)

22 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. We are back.
23 Thank you all for your indulgence. Sorry about
24 that. I appreciate everybody's indulgence.

25 I am not certain at what point of the audio

1 went bad. I think y'all were continuing right
2 along happily, and the rest of us were clueless.
3 Mr. Rehwinkel, I will let you guess where you left
4 off and where we need to go back to.

5 MR. REHWINKEL: Well, I am going to ask, just
6 because I got a bunch of messages from people
7 saying that they couldn't hear, but I think the
8 discussion about the parade rest was heard in the
9 hearing room, is that correct?

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yeah, let's ask the court
11 reporter, she would have been on-line.

12 MR. REHWINKEL: She heard everything, and she
13 didn't know when you dropped, but I would ask --
14 Mr. Coffey said that the unit was taken down to
15 parade rest. And then I asked him, did you say
16 parade rest? And he said that it was a military
17 term. And I was just wondering if that was heard
18 in the hearing room. I am just trying to get an
19 idea where we dropped.

20 CHAIRMAN CLARK: I don't think so. I don't
21 recall that response.

22 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. All right.

23 MR. HETRICK: Charles, you were going on for
24 about three or four minutes before we could get
25 anybody's attention --

1 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.

2 MR. HETRICK: -- so sequence it backwards a
3 bit. Thank you.

4 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Here's-- did you hear
5 me ask Mr. Coffey about the on-site versus off-site
6 work?

7 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, the maintenance by
8 Siemens?

9 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes. And there were some --
10 the resin work was done off-site, and it was a
11 rewind kit brought back to the plant site, did you
12 hear that?

13 CHAIRMAN CLARK: My last memory was you were
14 on the robotics about was it a human or a robot
15 going in the machine, that was the last part I
16 remember.

17 MR. REHWINKEL: All right. If -- could the
18 court reporter -- we can reconstruct this, because
19 I know you have an obligation to put this out to
20 the public, if the court reporter could read my
21 question where I asked him -- I said I was going to
22 talk about it later but I will do it right now, is
23 to ask about how much of this work was done
24 on-site.

25 (Whereupon, the court reporter read the

1 requested portion of the record.)

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: I think -- I think we're
3 there. Okay, let's pick up from that point.
4 Everybody is kind of agreeing that we heard that
5 part.

6 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. So, Mr. Chairman, if
7 you would like, I will just ask that question
8 again.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, sir, please.

10 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Back on the record.

11 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

12 Q Mr. Coffey, I had seen some information that
13 in, I think it was in the RCE and some of the other
14 materials, that the rewind was done on-site, but can you
15 tell me whether that was entirely true, or were there
16 functions that were done on-site and off-site?

17 A Yes, there are rewind -- the rewind activities
18 occur on-site and off-site. The type of activities that
19 occur off-site have to do with the construction of the
20 coils and the laminations, and insulating of those
21 materials to construct them into a rebuild kit. That
22 rebuild kit is then subsequently sent to the site.

23 And the activities that occur on-site is the
24 demolition of the old generator that was damaged in a
25 manner that you could still do forensics while you were

1 disassembling it, and then the reconstruction of it
2 using the rebuild kit that was sent to the site.

3 And so if the -- if, for example, the one of
4 the three causes was a particle that was introduced
5 during manufacturing, that could have happened off-site
6 when those coils were getting insulated, and then went
7 when it was sent to the site it was built right into the
8 machine. If not, when the machine was getting
9 constructed out, then it would be one of those other two
10 causes where it was constructed on-site in 2012.

11 **Q We may have confused timelines. I am talking**
12 **about in 2012 --**

13 A Yes.

14 **Q -- you talked about damage. The 2012 rewind**
15 **was just to facilitate an uprate in the unit as well as**
16 **the generator's capacity from 1,000 megawatts to 1,200**
17 **megawatts, is that right?**

18 A Yes. That's true. But you would still order
19 a rewind kit from the person that's doing it, and they
20 would construct that rewind kit off-site, and then they
21 would have that delivered to the site prior to the
22 planned outage in 2012, and the same sequence would
23 occur. The only difference between 2012 and 2019 is, is
24 that it was done planned versus unplanned.

25 **Q Okay.**

1 MR. REHWINKEL: Mr. Chairman, would you beg --
2 can I beg your indulgence? Somebody is hammering
3 outside my office, and I need to try to put a stop
4 to it?

5 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Yes, sir. Please do.

6 MR. REHWINKEL: Can I take a brief pause?

7 (Discussion off the record.)

8 BY MR. REHWINKEL:

9 Q Well, thank you for -- for that clarification.
10 We will come back to it in a little bit.

11 But just to go back to the event that occurred
12 in April 25th that tripped the unit, you were running
13 what was an hour-long reactive power test at PSL 1, is
14 that right?

15 A That's correct. Yes.

16 Q Okay. And would it be correct to say that
17 while the test was run, that the -- that while the test
18 was being run at 100 percent real power and 55 percent
19 reactive power, or 50 percent reactive power, you still
20 ran the unit during that test within the D curves, or
21 the generator capability curves, is that right?

22 A Yes. It was well within the generator
23 capability curves. And we actually had a challenge to
24 validate prior to doing any of that required testing
25 that we would remain within them the entire time, and we

1 did.

2 Q Okay. So I don't want you to speculate, and
3 if you can't answer this question, I understand.

4 No one has suggested that the reactive power
5 test in any way caused the damage. It just was run at a
6 high level that may have brought a magnetic termite, if
7 that's what caused it, all the way through the
8 insulation the last little bit, is that fair?

9 A I -- I don't -- I don't believe that to be
10 correct, Mr. Rehwinkel. What I would -- what I would --
11 what I would say is, and it states it in the root cause,
12 that there was a secondary forcing function, likely, in
13 this case, vibration of the machine. And so if it were
14 a contaminant or a particle, that that inherent
15 vibration that exists with rotating machinery worked
16 itself through to the point of failure at that time.

17 I am not sure that doing the reactive load
18 testing would have contributed to that or not, but we
19 were at that -- it was a prerogative failure, meaning it
20 was occurring over many years, and then it just got to
21 the point of failing underneath -- underneath the
22 materials that hadn't failed.

23 Q Okay. And I just want to eliminate that.
24 That's not really -- the reactive power test is not the
25 cause in any way, no one identified it that way, right?

1 A No, it was not the cause. It was refuted
2 as -- it was refuted as even contributing.

3 Q Okay. Can you -- we talked a little bit about
4 the -- I think in your testimony, on page three, lines
5 six through nine, you discuss an extent of condition
6 review at Unit 2, and you did that as a result of the
7 2019 outage to see that the same conditions didn't exist
8 there since both units were uprated at the same time; is
9 that right?

10 A Yes. We did an extended condition on Unit 2.
11 Not only did we do the extended condition review on Unit
12 2, we also had to do an extended condition on Unit 1.
13 We could not be -- when we found out that one of those
14 three causes, we also had to refute that we didn't have
15 that in any other locations as we disassembled the
16 machines. We didn't identify anything else on Unit 1.
17 And we also took the testing that we did on Unit 2 and
18 reviewed all the documents and testing that we had done
19 on Unit 2 to make sure we didn't have a concern there
20 either, so --

21 Q Okay.

22 A -- that's what we did.

23 Q Since -- well, when was the last time a
24 reactive power test was run with PSL 2?

25 A I don't know -- I don't know the answer to

1 that question. I did not look at that up, Mr.
2 Rehwinkel. But we run those tests in accordance with --
3 they are FERC mandated tests that we have to run for
4 grid reliability. And so we -- we were within the
5 interval of the FERC mandated test, but I don't recall
6 the last time we had done that. They are done every
7 couple of years.

8 Q Okay. And each unit has to do it, or do you
9 get to select the unit?

10 A Yeah, each unit has to do it, and none of our
11 sites are exempt from it.

12 Q Okay. Thank you.

13 So going back to the narrative. During the
14 test, about 43 minutes into it, the -- a ground fault
15 occurred and it tripped the unit, right?

16 A That's right. Yes.

17 Q And soon thereafter, you discovered the cause
18 of the fault and -- and very shortly thereafter ordered
19 a repair that required a complete rewinding of the
20 generator; is that fair?

21 A Yeah. Yeah, shortly is a relative term. It
22 took us nearly a week to find the cause, but yes.

23 Q Okay. Okay. And the -- the repair, I think,
24 as you alluded to in your testimony, was -- was
25 completed -- or the rewind, if you will, was completed

1 in a record time for Siemens for that type of unit of 49
2 days, is that right?

3 A That's right. The entirety of the outage was
4 57 days. And when we went and benchmarked all utilities
5 that had done an unplanned generator rewind, the fastest
6 one that we found on record was 90 days, and they ranged
7 from 90 days all the way up to 190 days, and so our
8 benchmarking led us to believe that we were almost twice
9 as efficient as the next quickest unplanned rewind.

10 (Transcript continues in sequence in Volume
11 3.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 5th day of November, 2020.



DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024