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Public Service Commission

December 2, 2020

Dianne Triplett, Esq.
Duke Energy Florida, LLC
299 1st Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Dianne.Triplett@duke-energy.com

STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST VIA EMAIL

Matthew Bernier, Esq.
Duke Energy Florida, LLC
106 East College Avenue, Suite 800
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Matthew.Bernier@duke-energy.com
FLRegulatoryLegal@duke-energy.com

Re: Docket No. 20200222-EI: Petition for approval of modifications to rate schedule FB-1, FixedBill Program by Duke Energy Florida, LLC.

Dear Ms. Triplett and Mr. Bernier:

By this letter, Commission staff respectfully requests the following information from Duke Energy Florida, LLC (DEF or company).

- 1) Paragraph 6 of the petition states that the goal of revising the Optional FixedBill tariff is to test customer willingness to grant DEF access to eligible customers' thermostats. Please discuss if DEF considers the proposed one-year modification to the tariff a pilot program.
- 2) Please discuss what prompted DEF to file this petition, since DEF already has Commission-approved DSM programs available to offer customers. In your response, please discuss the difference between an approved DSM program and the proposed tariff modification.
- 3) Please discuss the impact, if any, of the proposal on customers that do not take service under the FixedBill program.
- 4) Paragraph 6 of the petition states that if DEF has access to customer thermostats, the company will be able to reduce peak demand throughout the year and respond to emergency events. Please define "emergency events" and what are the company reasons

for wanting to reduce peak demand under this tariff (as opposed to the residential load management tariff for example)?

- 5) How many customers are currently enrolled in the FixedBill program?
- 6) DEF proposes to incentivize up to 2,000 participating customers by providing them a \$50 pre-paid credit card. How did the company determine the 2,000 customers' participation level? Will enrollment be on a first-come-first-serve basis? If not, please discuss how the company will select the 2,000 participants.
- 7) Would the 2,000 selected customers need to pay an initial set-up fee? If yes, what is the fee?
- 8) Will DEF implement the proposed thermostat program if there are not 2,000 customers enrolled? Please discuss.
- 9) Please discuss why DEF proposes to give customers a pre-paid credit card as opposed to a \$50 bill credit?
- 10) Please explain the sentence "customer owned assets outside and in addition to Commission approved DSM programs through December 31, 2021", referenced in paragraph 6 of the petition and state which DSM programs DEF is referring to.
- 11) Please explain the statement "this form of financial reward will be charged against the risk adder (below the line) associated with the FixedBill program" in petition paragraph 6. In your response, please state for the last 12 months the total amount of risk adder collected from all participating FixedBill customers and recorded below the line.
- 12) Please explain how the total revenues (excluding any taxes) collected from customers on the FixedBill program are allocated between above- and below-the-line.
- 13) Will customers selected to participate in the thermostat program need to sign a service agreement with additional requirements (compared to those already enrolled in the FixedBill Program)? If yes, please provide a copy of the agreement and explain what the requirements associated with allowing control of customer-owned assets are.
- 14) Will DEF have to install any equipment to control thermostats for customers that sign up for the \$50 pre-paid credit card? If yes, please explain what equipment needs to be installed and how DEF will recover the costs of any such equipment.
- 14) Does the proposed tariff modification need to be in effect for 12 months, or would 11 months be appropriate too?
- 15) The proposed tariff language under Risk Adder states that this program will be implemented until December 31, 2021 and would help reduce risk from customers to company. Could the proposed changes place additional risk on participants and remove any potential benefits of participating in this tariff option? Please explain.

Triplett & Bernier

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Please file all responses electronically no later than December 16, 2020, via the Commission's Electronic Filing Web Form. Please contact me at sguffey@psc.state.fl.us or at 850.413.6204 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

/s/Sevini Guffey

Sevini Guffey

Utility Analyst

cc: Commission Clerk