

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2021 8:27 AM
To: 'Cgerstle@alum.mit.edu'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated efficiency practices

Good Morning, Claude Gerstle

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200181-EU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz
Commission Deputy Clerk II
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.413.6770

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Cgerstle@everyactioncustom.com <Cgerstle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2021 5:30 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated efficiency practices

Dear Florida PSC Commissioners,

We all know that energy efficiency means using energy smarter. It is the quickest, cleanest, and cheapest way to meet our energy needs while helping Floridians cut energy waste and manage power bills. Helping hard-working families make their homes more efficient, safer, and secure also keeps energy dollars in local communities.

Yet the practices you rely upon in setting goals for the state's largest utilities haven't been modernized in almost 30 years – and that has led to Florida's largest power companies badly trailing leading utilities in the Southeast and across the nation in delivering energy savings to families and businesses. Most recently, this outdated approach led to power companies proposing goals of zero. We can do better.

Here are some proposals to put in any new rule:

1. Identify homes, apartment buildings and commercial buildings in the top decile of energy use per square foot in their respective categories and arrange energy audits and offer financial assistance for remediation where appropriate. This process must be repeated yearly.

2. Modern heat pumps are much more efficient than older air conditioning units. Incentivize and inform commercial building owners of the cost savings with heat pumps plus geo-engineering.
3. Assist homeowners with AC units over 7 years old in updating to high-efficiency pumps.
4. Ask the legislature to upgrade building code to the "passive home" standard.

It's time to use the rulemaking process to modernize your decades-old practices and consider ways to get utilities to do more on efficiency, in particular for low-income customers. The rule is outdated, we must get it right.

Sincerely,
Claude Gerstle
Delray Beach, FL 33446
Cgerstle@alum.mit.edu