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April 25, 2023

Michael Barrett Economic Supervisor Conservation Section, Division of Economics Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0688

Subject: Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) Responses to Florida Public Service Commission Staff's First Data Request re: OUC's 2022 Demand-Side Management Annual Report

Dear Mr. Barrett,

Attached please find the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) Responses to Florida Public Service Commission Staff's First Data Request re: OUC's 2022 Demand-Side Management Annual Report. The subject responses are being submitted by nFront Consulting on behalf of OUC.

If you have any questions about these responses, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bradley Kushner Executive Consultant nFront Consulting LLC BradKushner@nFrontConsulting.com

1. Please provide an Excel file (spreadsheet), in electronic format with cell formulas, of the 2022 Report.

OUC Response:

Please see file titled "OUC CY2023 PSC Conservation_FPSC.xlsx" provided via email.

- 2. Please answer the following regarding federal energy efficiency standards and Florida Building Code requirements.
 - A. Please describe how Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC or utility) has changed the way it monitors current federal energy efficiency standards and Florida Building Code requirements, compared to the methods it used in 2021, if applicable.

OUC Response:

OUC has not changed the way it monitors current federal energy efficiency standards and Florida Building Code requirements.

B. What impact, if any, did changes in federal or state standards have on the cost effectiveness of conservation programs in 2022?

OUC Response:

OUC does not believe that changes in federal or state standards had an impact on the cost effectiveness of conservation programs in 2022 as compared to 2021.

C. If applicable, what existing programs are under review for modification in 2023 to reflect changes to federal or state standards?

OUC Response:

OUC's existing Efficient Heat Pump Rebates Program and Ceiling Insulation Rebate Program are under review for modifications in 2023 to reflect changes to applicable federal standards.

3. Please answer the following regarding OUC's conservation research and development (CRD) initiatives that evaluate emerging DSM opportunities:

A. Identify and describe any new CRD initiatives that were launched in 2022.

OUC Response:

OUC did not launch any new energy- or water-related CRD initiatives in 2022.

B. Provide updates on the status of all on-going CRD initiatives that began before 2022, and if applicable, attach interim and/or final reports on work completed in 2022.

OUC Response:

OUC completed the installation of its Nanogrid, a small-scale microgrid comprising a range of different distributed energy resource (DERs) technologies, in April 2020. The Nanogrid is a living laboratory for testing intelligent dispatch and controls of DERs for demand management and resiliency as well as for individual device-level evaluations. Located at OUC's Gardenia facility, the Nanogrid currently includes 60 kW of floating solar PV, 80 kWh of vanadium redox flow batteries, EV DC fast charging, level 2 EV charging and vehicle-to-grid (V2G) EV charging.

Current Nanogrid research includes the following:

- Utilizing solar plus storage for demand mitigation for EV charging
- Resiliency operations of EV charging during extended outages
- EV demand response through V2G operations.

The Nanogrid was developed in 2019 and installed in April 2020. Since that time, OUC has been developing an intelligent controls system that will optimally dispatch DERs for different use-cases. Research is on-going and no interim or final reports have been finalized.

4. Please answer the following regarding marketing and outreach efforts in 2022:

A. Describe the marketing and outreach methods and techniques the utility used to promote all demand and energy conservation programs in 2022. Address in your response whether any of these efforts were changed or modified in 2022, compared to prior years.

OUC Response:

The marketing and outreach methods and techniques used by OUC to promote demand and energy conservation programs in 2022 are discussed below. In general, these efforts were not changed or modified in 2022 as compared to prior years. Please refer to Section 3.5.2 of OUC's 2023 Ten-Year Site Plan for additional information. Examples of OUC's marketing material is included as Appendix A attached hereto.

OUC created specific campaigns to ensure customers had the information they needed to learn how to save energy and money with OUC's programs. The "See the Savings" campaign included links to a dedicated "efficiency matters" webpage which included high bill solutions, OUC's conservation programs, in-home audits, OUC's usage dashboard, financial utility assistance programs, and tips. The campaign provides customers with the tools and the data they need to make smart energy choices for themselves based on savings. The dedicated web page includes the following:

- <u>www.ouc.com/waystosave</u>
- <u>www.ouc.com/assistance</u>
- <u>www.ouc.com/highbillsolutions</u>

OUC continues to provide extensive seasonal savings information. For example, a *Hot & Cold Weather Survival Guides*, to help customers lower their bills is shared via multiple channels, such as OUC.com/hotweather, OUC.com/coldweather our Connections printed newsletter, OUConnect e-newsletter, OUConnect blog, and social media channels. When temperatures are forecasted to be 96 degrees or greater, non-payment service disconnections are suspended. OUC also provides information to elected officials, community groups, and churches to share with their constituents.

In addition, OUC sent monthly e-newsletters that addressed specific energy-saving programs and tips. Customers could read and view videos on OUC's blog about ways to save energy. All information was provided in English and Spanish. OUC appeared on local news stations providing on-air interviews. Please refer to the table below for links to the interviews and news stories.

Media:	Link:
FOX	How to save on power bill
WESH & CW18	https://www.wesh.com/article/florida-heat-save-energy/40657082
Osceola News-Gazette	Power bills high like the temperatures? OUC can help you save
WFTV	OUC shares tips for safely keeping warm during winter cold snaps – WFTV
FOX	https://www.fox35orlando.com/news/central-florida-freeze-tips-on-how-to- prepare-for-chilly-weather-hard-freeze
WFTV	Oh, (cold) snap: Tips to keep you safe, warm during Florida freeze – WFTV
WKMG	Don't let your home get too cold, home heating experts say (clickorlando.com)
Orlando Sentinel	<u>Utilities offer hardship assistance as electric rates soar and economy teeters –</u> <u>Orlando Sentinel</u>
Apopka Voice	https://theapopkavoice.com/stories/florida-utilities-offer-hardship-assistance- to-customers,26965

In celebration of Earth Month, in April 2022, OUC encouraged customers to implement small behavior changes to increase energy conservation in their everyday lives by showcasing the Tiny Green Home at Central Florida Earth Day 2022, a 200-square-foot model of sustainable living. The free event was located at Orlando's Lake Eola Park. More than 25,000 attendees had the opportunity to learn about OUC's energy efficiency programs, sign up for home energy audits, and walk through the Tiny Green Home. In 2022, more than 18,000 visitors interacted with the home between community events and Orlando Science Center tours. Since the Tiny Home is mobile, OUC was able to take it on the road to four community events in 2022— Central Florida Earth Day, Special Olympics USA Games, Youth Energy Academy, and OUC Orlando Half Marathon.

B. Describe the marketing and outreach efforts in 2022 that specifically promoted OUC's Low Income Programs.

OUC Response:

As a part of the "See the Savings" campaign and throughout 2022, OUC also used all of its digital and print channels (i.e. website, bill inserts, bill messages, e-newsletter and social media) to send out communication regarding Efficiency Delivered, OUC's low income program that provides customers up to \$2,500 of energy and water efficiency upgrades for their homes. Homeowners with an annual household income of \$40,001-\$60,000 could receive the lower contribution from OUC while homeowners with less than \$40,000 in annual income could receive the maximum amount. OUC also allows eligible homeowners to spread payments

over a 12-month period, interest free, on their utility bill. Below is a sample digital ad promoting the monetary savings a customer could receive.



In addition, OUC promoted Efficiency Delivered testimonials to show customers the savings they could receive if they participated in the program. Below is a link to an article and video from a customer that participated in Efficiency Delivered.

• <u>https://oucblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Efficiency-Delivered.mp4?_=1</u>

In addition, in 2022 OUC offered the Google Translate tool on OUC.com to ease the navigation for customers who speak a language other than English or Spanish.

OUC Power Pass, OUC's prepaid metering program, has surpassed 18,000 customers – residential and small businesses. OUC has also contracted with Bidgely to send out Energy Reports to over 40,000 customers every other month with tips and suggestions on ways to save energy.

5. Page 2-1 of the Report references the utility's Residential Home Energy Survey Program. Please populate the following table to provide information on the number of audits conducted in 2022, by type.

	In-Person	Virtual		
Utility	Walk-Through, BERS, and Computer-Assisted	Online	Phone	Total
OUC				

Residential Audits by Type in 2022

OUC Response:

Please see completed table below, which includes the requested information.

	In-Person	Virtual		
Utility	Walk-Through, BERS, and Computer-Assisted	Online	Phone	Total
OUC	1,469	0	0	1,469

6. Page 2-2 of the Report references the utility's Commercial Energy Audit Program. Please populate the following table to provide information on the number of audits conducted in 2022, by type.

Commercial Audits by Type in 2022

	In-Person	Virtual		
Utility	Walk-Through, BERS, and Computer-Assisted	Online	Phone	Total
OUC				

<u>OUC Response:</u> Please see completed table below, which includes the requested information.

	In-Person	Virtual		
Utility	Walk-Through, BERS, and Computer-Assisted	Online	Phone	Total
OUC	30			30

> Appendix A Examples of OUC Marketing Material



Hot Weather Conservation and Rebates Campaign



Cold Weather Conservation and Rebates Campaign



SUSTAINABILITY

OUC and Orlando City Soccer Club Partnership (:30) video played at Orlando City Soccer and Orlando Pride Games in stadium and on TV





COMMUNITY DISPLAYS/EVENTS

Tiny Green Home Traveling Exhibit

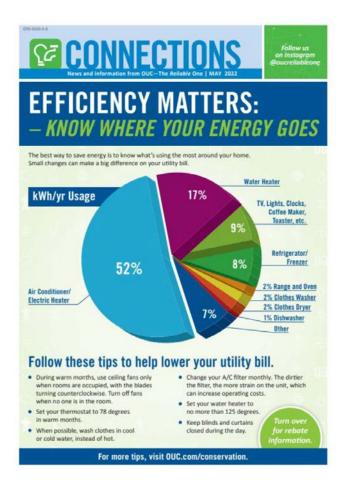
- Partnership with Orlando Science Center
- A mobile exhibit taken to community events with its permanent location at the Orlando Science Center
- Exhibit provides hands on experience on how to save energy and water around the home along with sustainable energy. It is self-powered through solar panels and battery storage.

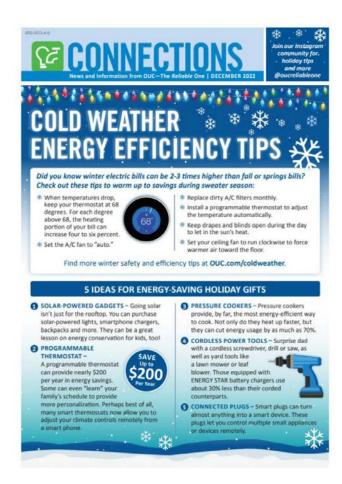


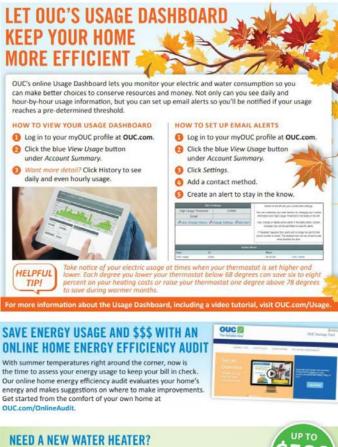












Utilizing super-efficient technology, an ENERGY STAR[®] Heat Pump Water Heater can cut water heating costs by more than half. Take advantage of our ENERGY STAR[®] Heat Pump Water Heater rebate. OUC pays 100% of cost up to \$500. For more information, visit OUC.com/rebates.

500



FREE IN-HOME ENERGY/WATER AUDITS

Take advantage of OUC's FREE In-Home Energy/Water Conservation Audits to learn how efficient your home's energy and water use is, as well as where you can make improvements to lower your utility bills.

More at OUC.com/energyaudit.

Take advantage of OUC's FREE In-Home Energy Conservation Audits to learn how efficient your home's energy use is, as well as where you can make improvements to lower your utility bills. nergya





SOCIAL MEDIA

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OUCBLOG.COM SMART IRRIGATION SAVES WATER, MONEY - OUConnect Robert Carver uses a smartphone app when he needs to make adju...









ouca OUC - The Reliable One 🥝 Posted by Sprout Social Jul 1, 2022 · 🚱

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Did you know OUC offers FREE home energy audits? With this service, an OUC Conservation Specialist will come out to and assess your home and help you find ways to save on your electric bill Sign up today at https://bit.ly/3yBWNym #FLPublicPower #PublicPower













