



**Pat Kemp**  
County Commissioner  
District 6, Countywide

November 30, 2023

Florida Public Service Commission  
Tallahassee, FL  
Filed Electronically

RE: Opposition to Petition for Variance by Tampa Electric Company  
Docket No. 20230122-EI

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for considering my comment. I am a Countywide Commissioner in Hillsborough County, Florida. Tampa Electric is the only electric utility serving Hillsborough residents. Therefore, this decision affects every one of my 1.5 million constituents.

Hillsborough residents have repeatedly contacted my office and appeared at public meetings seeking relief from increasingly and comparatively high residential electric rates, which are putting a great deal of financial pressure on families here. Many residents took the time to appear at the County Commission and specifically ask me to oppose this request.

The variance should be denied. The legally required study should not be waived at the utility's request. Hillsborough residents are very concerned that waiving this rule will result in unfairly higher rates for overburdened residential customers. The Commission's decision should be based on the best available data in order to be accepted by the public.

In this time of exploding costs of living, we need to take every step we can to be fair to our residents. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Kemp".

Pat Kemp  
Commissioner, Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners  
District 6, Countywide