I. Meeting Packet



State of Florida

Public Service Commission INTERNAL AFFAIRS AGENDA

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 9:30 a.m.

Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 140

- 1. Hurricane Preparedness Presentation. (Attachment 1)
- 2. Legislative Update. (No Attachment)
- 3. Executive Director's Report. (No Attachment)
- 4. Other Matters. (No Attachment)

BB/css

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE:

May 2, 2013

TO:

Braulio Baez, Executive Director

FROM:

Melissa L'Amoreaux, Engineering Specialist II, Division of Engineering

RE:

Briefing of the Eighth Annual Hurricane Preparedness Workshop

Critical Dates: Please place on the May 15, 2013 Internal Affairs. Information

purposes only. No Commission action requested.

In 2006, the Florida Public Service Commission adopted a multifaceted approach and a response to ensure all utilities' infrastructures would be better able to withstand the impact of hurricanes and implement lessons learned from the 2004/2005 seasons. With that, the Commission adopted ten storm hardening initiatives and required investor-owned utilities to file formal storm hardening plans every three years subject to Commission approval. The second updated storm hardening plans were filed this month and are currently scheduled for Commission approval in the fall.

In a July 2007 report to the Legislature, the Commission recommended that Floridians maintain a high level of storm preparation. The annual hurricane preparedness workshop provides utilities and local exchange companies a forum to advise the Commission of their individual preparation activities.

After years with no hurricanes visiting Florida, we are pleased to say the utilities in Florida have not become complacent in their efforts to strengthen their infrastructure to withstand severe weather events. The Florida Public Service Commission will continue its efforts to review and analyze all hurricane preparedness programs as well as each utility's storm hardening plan. Attached is a PowerPoint presentation that staff will review at the May 15, 2013 Internal Affairs.

Attachment

cc: Chuck Hill, Deputy Executive Director - Technical April Lynn, Deputy Executive Director - Administrative



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

By: Melissa L'Amoreaux
Engineering Specialist II
Florida Public Service
Commission

OVERVIEW

- WHAT COMPANIES PRESENTED?
- WHAT WERE THE KEY TOPICS DISCUSSED?
- ANY CHANGES?
- WHY IS THIS WORKSHOP HELPFUL?
- WHAT THE PSC DOES TO ENSURE COMPANIES / RATE PAYERS ARE READY FOR THIS HURRICANE SEASON?

COMPANIES IN ATTENDANCE

- FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT
- PROGRESS ENERGY FLORIDA
- TAMPA ELECTRIC
- GULF POWER
- FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY
- MUNICIPALS
- COOPERATIVES



TOPICS

- Hurricane Drills
- Inspection Programs
- ☐ Hurricane Sandy
- Critical Infrastructure

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT

- Annual preparations for FPL include extensive training, companywide hurricane dry runs, organizing forensic teams, informing employees of the restoration plans, and active participation in the National Hurricane Conference.
- Since 2006, FPL has replaced more than 11,000 wood transmission structures and replaced ceramic post insulators on more than 3,900 structures.
- FPL deployed nearly 1,000 workers and additional resources to assist the 11 utilities to restore power following Hurricane Sandy.
- ► Since 2006, FPL has hardened 1,253 miles and 361 feeders, serving 385 critical infrastructure customers.

PROGRESS ENERGY FLORIDA

- Annual preparation and training continues. In addition to mock drills, PEF is looking to possibly modify different tactics due to lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy.
- Since 2006, PEF has replaced 17,800 poles that were identified in inspections. 4,600 of those were replaced last year alone.
- PEF deployed around 600 employees and contractors for Hurricane Sandy. This represented nearly 20% of PEF's entire workforce in Florida.
- PEF has completed all 57 projects that were listed in the 2010 storm hardening plan. More projects will be noted in the 2013 plan.

TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY

- ▶ TECO addressed its continued participation in internal and external preparedness exercises and collaborated with government emergency management agencies at local, state, and federal levels. In addition to mock drills, all emergency support functions were reviewed and personnel were trained.
- In 2012, TECO completed 54,000 pole inspections, hardened nearly 900 structures, replaced 700 structures and 200 sets of insulators. Since the beginning of the program, TECO has replaced 17,000 distribution poles and 4,600 transmission poles.
- TECO deployed about 115 linemen, substation crews, and support staff and 145 contractors for Hurricane Sandy. In addition, 50 customer service representatives helped answer customer calls.
- TECO completed two major hardening projects for critical infrastructure: St. Joe's major trauma center and the Port of Tampa, which has the ability to deliver 40% of Florida's natural gas supply. TECO is currently looking into other projects and will report these projects in the storm hardening plan.

GULF POWER COMPANY

- ▶ Gulf continues to participate in both EOC and state drill events. District and local managers continue to interact with city and county personnel on a regular basis in order to stay informed for weather events. In addition to mock hurricane drills, Gulf reenacted a natural disaster event in which minimal notice was available.
- Since 2007, Gulf has replaced 4,049 distribution poles. Gulf completed the five-year guy installation program, of which 1,721 structures were unguyed. Gulf has also replaced 1,278 structures with its arm replacement program.
- Gulf deployed 48 line workers and 14 additional employees to assist with relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy. Gulf personnel worked safely in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.
- ▶ Gulf has spent a total of \$1.3 million on critical infrastructure projects in 2012. This consisted of mainly substation feeders in different districts. More projects will be noted in the 2013 report. However, Gulf notes that it continues to plan on ramping up conversion to Grade B construction.

FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY

- ▶ Annually FPUC updates its emergency restoration plan and interactively trains employees on proper procedures as well as being actively involved with the EOC.
- To date approximately 26,000 poles have been inspected, of which 1,268 wood poles failed inspection. These poles are currently being prioritized and replaced based on worst poles first. 753 poles have been replaced so far. FPUC completed its six-year transmission line inspection during 2012.
- ▶ FPUC deployed 10 employees to help in the relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy.
- FPUC stated several projects were underway addressing critical infrastructure particularly on Amelia Island due to the vulnerability from hurricanes. Such projects include hardening of distribution feeders to Baptist Hospital, additional underground feeder to provide backup service to the south end of Amelia Island, and replacement of wooden transmission poles with concrete poles.

CHANGES

- Hurricane Sandy
- Refined StormHardening Plans



WHY THIS WORKSHOP IS HELPFUL

- Work Achieved
- Gain Insight
- Assist

WHAT THE PSC DOES TO ENSURE COMPANIES / RATE PAYERS ARE READY FOR THIS HURRICANE SEASON?

ANNUAL HURRICANEPREPAREDNESSWORKSHOP

PSC WEBSITE



CONCLUSION

II. Outside PersonsWho Wish toAddress theCommission atInternal Affairs

The records reflect that no outside persons addressed the Commission at this Internal Affairs meeting.

III. SupplementalMaterials ProvidedDuring InternalAffairs

The records reflect that there were no supplemental materials provided to the Commission during this Internal Affairs meeting.

IV. Transcript

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STATE OF FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Internal Affairs Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 140

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PROCEEDINGS

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CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Good morning, everyone.

We'll go ahead and call this Internal Affairs meeting to order. Today is Wednesday, May 15th, 2013.

And so we will begin with our hurricane preparedness presentation.

MS. L'AMOREAUX: Well, good morning, Commissioners. My name is Melissa L'Amoreaux. today I would like to discuss with you the Hurricane Preparedness Workshop held April 3rd, 2013. Before I begin, I would like to give you a brief overview of how this workshop was formed.

In 2006, the Florida Public Service Commission adopted a multi-faceted approach and a response to ensure all utilities' infrastructure would be better able to withstand the impact of hurricanes and implement lessons learned from the 2004/2005 seasons.

With that, the Commission adopted ten storm hardening initiatives and required investor-owned utilities to file formal storm hardening plans every three years subject to the Commission's approval.

The second updated storm hardening plans were filed this month, and are currently being reviewed in Docket Numbers 130129-EI, 130131-EI, 130132-EI, 130138, and 130139-EI.

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In the July 2007 report to the Legislators, the Commission cited that our most critical recommendation, that Floridians maintain a high level of storm preparation. The annual hurricane season preparedness workshop provides utilities and local exchange companies a forum to advise the Commission of their individual preparation activities.

So with that, these are the sections I'm going to cover with you today in my presentation: What companies presented; what were the key topics discussed; any changes; why this workshop is helpful; and what the PSC does to ensure that ratepayers and companies are ready for hurricane season.

The companies in attendance for this year were Florida Power & Light, Progress Energy, which now is Duke Energy, Tampa Electric, Gulf Power, Florida Public Utilities Company, a representative from the municipalities, and a representative from the cooperatives.

The topics on the slide were the main subjects discussed by every presenter at the hurricane workshop. We talked about hurricane drills, inspection programs, Hurricane Sandy, and critical infrastructure. And those four topics I'm going to go over for each company, each IOU.

Florida Power & Light told us that annual preparations for Florida Power & Light included extensive training, company-wide hurricane dry runs, organizing forensic teams, informing employees of their restoration programs, and active participation in the National Hurricane Conference.

Since 2006, FPL replaced more than 11,000 wood transmission structures and replaced ceramic post insulators on more that 3,900 structures.

FPL deployed nearly a thousand workers and additional resources to assist eleven utilities to restore power to (sic) Hurricane Sandy. And since 2006, Florida has hardened 1,253 miles and 361 feeders serving 385 critical infrastructure customers.

Progress Energy. Annual preparation and training continues. In addition to mock drills, Duke is looking into possibly modifying different tactics due to the lessons learned in Hurricane Sandy. And since 2006, Duke has replaced 17,800 poles that were identified in inspections; 4,600 of those were replaced just last year.

They deployed around 600 employees and contractors for Hurricane Sandy. And this represented nearly 20 percent of their entire workforce in Florida, so they were very proactive.

Progress also completed all 57 projects that were listed in their Storm Hardening Plan, and more are going to be noted in their recent filing.

Tampa Electric. TECO addressed its continued participation in internal and external preparation exercises and collaborated with government emergency management agencies at local, state, and federal levels. In addition to mock drills, all emergency support functions were reviewed and personnel were trained.

In 2012, TECO completed 54,000 pole inspections, hardening nearly 900 structures, replaced 700 structures, and 200 sets of insulators. And since the beginning of the program, TECO has replaced 17,000 distribution poles and 4,600 transmission poles.

TECO deployed about 115 linemen, substation crews, and support staff, and 145 contractors for Hurricane Sandy, in addition to 50 customer service representatives that helped answer phone calls.

TECO completed two major hardening projects for critical infrastructure, the St. Joe Major Trauma Center, and the Port of Tampa, which has the ability to deliver 40 percent of -- it's supposed to be gasoline supply, not natural gas.

TECO is currently looking into other projects, and those will be reported in their hardening plans that

1 were just filed.

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On to Gulf. Gulf continues to participate in both the EOC and state drill events. District and local managers continue to interact with city and county personnel on a regular basis in order to stay informed for weather events. In addition to mock hurricane drills, Gulf re-enacted a natural disaster in which minimal notice was available, more like a tornado event.

And since 2007, Gulf has replaced 4,049 distribution poles. Gulf completed the five-year guy installation program of which 1,721 structures were unguyed. Gulf has also replaced 1,278 structures with its arm-replacement program.

Gulf deployed 48 line workers and 14 additional employees to assist with the relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy. Gulf personnel worked safely in the West Virginia and Pennsylvania and New Jersey area. We were informed after this PowerPoint slide was completed that they also sent 22 support staff.

Gulf has spent a total of 1.3 million on critical infrastructure projects for 2012, and this consisted mainly of substation feeders in different districts. More projects will be noted in the 2000 (sic) report. However, Gulf noted that it continues to plan on ramping-up its Grade B conversions.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: What's that?

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MS. L'AMOREAUX: There's different grade levels for different poles, and the higher the grade the better it can resist wind, wind resistance. So Grade B is pretty much like the best to withstand hurricane events.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: Thank you.

MS. L'AMOREAUX: Uh-huh.

And Florida Public Utilities. Annually, FPUC updates its Emergency Restoration Plan and interactively trains employees on proper procedures, as well as being actively involved at the EOC.

And to date approximately 26,000 poles have been inspected, of which 1,268 wood poles failed the inspection. These poles are currently being prioritized on the worst-pole level. 753 poles have been replaced so far, and FPUC completed its Six-Year Transmission Line Inspection Program in 2012.

They deployed ten employees to help with the relief efforts with Hurricane Sandy. And FPUC stated that several projects were underway addressing critical infrastructure, particularly in the Amelia Island area because of the vulnerability due to hurricanes. These projects include hardening of distribution feeders to the Baptist Hospital; additional underground feeders to

provide backup work service to the south end of Amelia Island, and replacement of wooden transmission poles with concrete poles.

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I didn't go over the municipalities and the cooperatives. There was one representative for all of them, and they pretty much discussed the same stuff.

The next slide talks about changes. Every company in attendance seemed to agree that change is sometimes needed in order to improve Florida's infrastructure. Lessons learned by deploying crews to Hurricane Sandy were the main focus. Companies involved in the restoration progress in the Northeast stated that changes in the programs and trainings were possibly needed.

In order to ensure Florida's electric companies do not experience the same dilemmas, refined post-weather event procedures are being looked at. In addition, companies such as TECO and Gulf have also modified their trim cycles as part of their vegetation management programs to enhance the service of their territory.

As stated earlier, investor-owned utilities have filed their second storm hardening update -- storm hardening plans, and any changes will be included in these filings.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Before you go forward --

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MS. L'AMOREAUX: Yes.

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lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy, was there any

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: -- with respect to changes or

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conversation about greater interaction between the

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telephone companies and the electric companies, so that

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now that most people are off of the copper wires and

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they are greatly dependent on wireless and so forth, so

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that the backup power is available so that there is

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communication services available?

MS. L'AMOREAUX: Yes, I'm not -- I don't think

12 that it was widely discussed in the workshop. However,

there are programs in place and they constantly keep in

contact with these companies. And they report them in

their Storm Hardening Plans, and what programs they have

in place to keep the lines open with telephone

17 companies.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Okay.

MS. L'AMOREAUX: It wasn't really discussed.

We kind of mainly discussed what they saw in Hurricane

Sandy and what they could probably -- lessons learned on

what we can do better here in Florida.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: In a similar vein with

24 regard to Hurricane Sandy, you said earlier that Duke is

25 employing different tactics as a result of lessons

learned from Sandy. Can you specify what those are?

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MS. L'AMOREAUX: Not until we review the plans. But they said that -- they gave a lot of information on their slides, and I can provide the slides to you that they gave. But they spoke about -just their encounters on getting, moving to areas in time, there was a lot of sitting around, and getting work orders done. And so that was probably one of the -- like, one of the lessons that they definitely are going to try to switch with their program.

But their main focus was to just kind of let us know what they saw, and that when they filed their plans that those would be in there to kind of let us know what they are going to change. We just got them on May 3rd. And in preparing for this and everything else, we really haven't fully looked at them. But once that's done -- but I can provide the slides on what they said.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BALBIS: A follow-up question. You indicated you just received the plans May 3rd?

MS. L'AMOREAUX: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER BALBIS: How long will it take staff to review the plans?

MS. L'AMOREAUX: Not long at all. Probably about -- no more than a month and a half to two months. COMMISSIONER BALBIS: Okay. I think it may be

better -- I don't know why May 3rd was chosen, because

that is near the start of the hurricane season.

Wouldn't it be better to have it due a little before

that so staff can review it before hurricane season

starts?

I don't know how the date was set, but -
MR. BALLINGER: I think the date might have

come from when the last ones were approved.

COMMISSIONER BALBIS: Okay.

MR. BALLINGER: They are on a three-year cycle. I'll have to look at that. I don't think it's specified in the rule of actually when they are due. It may have been tied to when the first ones were done, which went through a lengthy process because it was the initial one there. So I can look at that.

MS. L'AMOREAUX: In 2007 it just happened that it was -- they were filed in May. And so it said every three years, and so now they've been filing in May.

COMMISSIONER BALBIS: Okay. It might be something to think about for the next one. Maybe have it due in March so that once it's reviewed, staff can provide input before the start of the hurricane season.

MR. BALLINGER: This is not really for a preparation of the season. This is a longer-term

hardening program. It is tied somewhat with storm preparations, but the approval of the plan, I don't know that it really is that critical to be done; but we can look at that for sure.

COMMISSIONER BALBIS: Okay.

MR. HILL: Mr. Chairman? Excuse me.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Sure.

MR. HILL: With respect to the coordination with the telephone companies, I know back in 2006 there was a major problem, and I know that our investor-owned utilities through the EOC, we got together and had several meetings with representatives from the telephone companies to coordinate both at the EOC and on the ground in the field where the damage has happened to make sure that there is a direct connection of communication between the power companies and the telephone companies.

apparently that was one of the major challenges with Sandy in the aftermath that, you know, part of the issue wasn't the fact that the towers were not -- that the towers were down or anything, it was just the fact that there was no power in the towers, so people just didn't have the ability to make calls. And since so many people are off of the traditional line, that that

becomes a major issue.

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MR. BAEZ: That's been something that's been g addressed from both sides. Not just the

getting addressed from both sides. Not just the restoration of the utility side, but the reserves that the mobile companies actually put at their tower sites.

MR. LEWIS: Excuse me, Melissa.

Commissioners, I just wanted to answer your question further about the problems after Sandy. One of the things that was brought out -- I'm sorry, I'm Clayton Lewis with staff -- the coordination efforts seemed to be the big problem. There were issues with getting trucks and personnel out of the parking lots.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Right.

MR. LEWIS: So that is one of the emphasis that the companies are working on. They realize that Florida is blessed; we are farther ahead. So they are looking at when they do assistance to other regions, that they have their people meet off-site and have some of their coordinating efforts. And even things such as feeding people, and having the right personnel and the supplies ready to go further so they have a productive day. So that's the things that they are working on and what we are expecting to be provided to us at a later date.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Thank you.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: The advanced staging is part of that preparation prior to. I know one of the key factors, that when we looked back -- we meaning everybody involved -- looked back at what we had learned in '04 and '05, that advanced preparation staging is key.

And my understanding from speaking with utility representatives and with regulators from some of those states in the Northeast, that some of those lessons that we've learned had not completely transferred prior to Sandy.

MR. BAEZ: I was going to say, a lot of what you find out here is that there is more best practices being exported from Florida than the other way around. I mean, when we all sit here and use terms of lessons learned, and we failed to emphasize who actually is learning the lesson. Obviously it's a two-way street, but, you know, back to what I said, there's a lot more best practices going on. I think that's something that we also need to recognize, that somehow we are setting the bar out there. And that's something that we can all be proud of, the whole community.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Well, on that note, the Telecommunications Committee at NARUC has recognized that we are way ahead of the curve on this issue, and

they are sort of looking to us for a little bit of 1 quidance. 2 3 MR. BAEZ: It's a terrible way to get ahead of the curve -- (Laughter.) -- but there is that, you know. 4 CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Right. 5 MS. L'AMOREAUX: And two side-notes on one of 6 7 the storm hardening initiatives is the audits with telephone companies that they have, so they are 8 9 inspecting the poles that they have with the telephone 10 companies. 11 And another side-note, the New Jersey State 12 Attorney General has contacted me for information on our 13 storm hardening plans and what exactly we do here in 14 Florida so that they can better prepare and start to try 15 to initiate their own storm hardening plan based on ours. So that's a little exciting. 16 17 All right. Why this workshop is helpful. This annual workshop is extremely helpful for three 18 19 reasons: First, it allows companies to brief the 20 Commission staff on work achieved to protect facilities 21 to date as well as work in progress. 22 Second, companies gain insight on what other utilities in Florida are accomplishing in order to 23 24 maintain a high awareness of severe weather events.

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

And, lastly, we at the Commission are able to

address and assist in areas of vulnerability within a service area.

And what the PSC does to ensure companies and ratepayers are ready for this hurricane season. The PSC is working diligently to make sure companies and ratepayers in Florida are prepared for the hurricanes.

Not only does the PSC hold annual preparedness workshops, but there are also many useful tools for customers on our website. Under the consumer assistance tab, the PSC provides hurricane tips such as what to have in a disaster supply kit; what to do when power lines go down; how to handle pets and outdoor objects, just to name a few examples. In addition, the PSC provides useful links to the American Red Cross, FloridaDisaster.org, and the Florida Department of Emergency Management.

And with that, that is --

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right. Any further questions?

MR. BAEZ: Commissioners, I didn't want to say this earlier, because there's such a thing as piling too much pressure on, but this was Melissa's first presentation before you all.

MS. L'AMOREAUX: IA, yes.

MR. BAEZ: We thank her for her diligent work.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

1	MS. L'AMOREAUX: Thank you.
2	CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Well, thank you, Melissa.
3	You did a fantastic job this morning.
4	MS. L'AMOREAUX: I'm a little nervous.
5	(Laughter.)
6	CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: That's all right. We all get
7	nervous sometimes.
8	COMMISSIONER BALBIS: You can't let her off
9	this easy.
10	COMMISSIONER BROWN: Really.
11	COMMISSIONER BALBIS: I have twenty more
12	questions.
13	(Laughter.)
14	CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right. We're going to go
15	ahead thank you.
16	MS. L'AMOREAUX: Thank you.
17	CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: We are going to go ahead and
18	move to Legislative Update.
19	MS. PENNINGTON: Good morning.
20	CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Good morning.
21	MS. PENNINGTON: This is my first presentation
22	also.
23	(Laughter.)
24	COMMISSIONER BALBIS: We're not going to go
25	easy on you.

MR. KISER: I don't think --

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MS. PENNINGTON: No matter how hard I try.

Good morning. I just wanted to give you a couple of brief updates this morning, and at the next Internal Affairs meeting we'll be providing our regular end-of-session summary in writing, just so that you can have that throughout the year.

I want to talk first about the bill relating to 366.93, Nuclear Cost -- Nuclear and IGCC Cost-Recovery. That was one major bill that will impact the way we do business. It may impact our rules; it may require some rule revisions, et cetera. So we'll take a look at that one first.

And then a couple of other bills that we are looking at final versions to see if -- we kind of watched them through the session, monitored those bills to see if the final version has any impact on us.

And then, finally, over just a couple of bills that died, but very likely will be back, that we monitored and you may have some interest in.

So the first bill, 1492 (sic), has been enrolled and has not yet gone to the Governor's Office. It amends several sections of 366.93, relating to the cost-recovery. The first thing it does --

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Katherine, I'm sorry for

interrupting, is it 1492 or 1472? 1 MR. BAEZ: 72, I think. 2 3 MS. PENNINGTON: Thank you so much. 1472. 4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Okay. 5 MS. PENNINGTON: 1472, thank you. 6 7 The first thing it does is it changes the way that the AFUDC carrying cost rates are calculated. 8 9 you know, those carrying costs are calculated based upon 10 the date that the law was implemented. Beginning with 11 this legislation, assuming -- this is all assuming the 12 Governor signs the bill, they'll be calculated on the 13 IOU's most recently approved pre-tax AFUDC rate at the 14 time that recovery is sought. 15 The result is that, for instance, with FP&L, it will decrease their rate from 7.42 percent to 16 17 6.41 percent, which is the current rate. And for Duke/Progress from 8.84 percent to 7.44 percent. 18 19 that's pretty significant going forward, if those rates 20 were to remain -- fixed --

MR. BAEZ: Static.

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MS. PENNINGTON: Static. Fixed; static -which, of course, they won't. But if they were, for
instance, with the Levy Project, that would save 870
million over the total cost of the project. So this

change in the AFUDC rate is probably one of the most significant parts of the legislation.

Something else it does is it puts some incremental steps in the bill in that it requires, first of all, that it limits -- during the licensing and certification process, it limits cost-recovery to only costs that are associated with licensing and certification.

And as Mark explained to us when we were looking at this bill during session, that there are some costs associated with on-going activities that may not be related to -- certification that we'll be taking a look, or that you all will be taking a look at during the NCRC proceedings.

And then we go in increments. It requires PSC approval. Once licensing and certification is obtained, it requires PSC approval. The IOU must come back to the Commission and petition for approval to proceed with pre-construction. And at that time the agency, the Commission must determine that the facility remains feasible and that project costs are reasonable.

The same thing for the construction phase, the IOU must, again, petition. It does not require -- the final version of the bill does not require preconstruction to be complete before the IOU comes in

to petition for construction costs, or approval to proceed with construction. One version of the bill did that, but the final version, there is some ability to overlap there.

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It also creates a new subsection in 366.93 that talks about what happens if the IOU does not build the facility within a certain period of time. First of all, if construction does not begin within ten years, the IOU must petition the Commission to preserve the opportunity for future recovery through the clause. And at that time the Commission makes a determination that, yes, indeed they do still intend to build the facility, but if the Commission determines there's a lack of intent to build it, it may prohibit future cost-recovery under this section.

It also precludes the alternative cost-recovery if the IOU has not begun construction within 20 years. That's sort of a drop-dead date. However, traditional base rate recovery would be available. It's not shutting you out of everything.

It also revises 366.93(3), that the Commission must find -- or may find that the utility intends to construct the plant by determining by a preponderance of the evidence that it has committed -- that it has committed sufficient, meaningful, and available

resources to enable the plant to be completed, and that the utility's intent is realistic and practical.

The language that I think I spoke to you about at one point during the legislative session which required the agency to conduct a comprehensive review, and that language also at one point was in proviso language, that was removed from the bill. And this language that appears to rely upon the Commission discretion to determine what is sufficient, meaningful, realistic, and practical. So that's --

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: The proviso language died in conference?

MS. PENNINGTON: It moved. It was removed in conference committee, yes, sir.

Any questions about that bill? And we will be providing you with some summary points as well for that bill, if you were asked questions.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Can I?

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Sure.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Katherine, do you think this is really the tipping point of some future substantial changes? From your experience and from what you've heard during all the different discussions on this bill, do you think that this is just the beginning?

MS. PENNINGTON: My crystal ball is not that

clear, Commissioner Brown, and I would not want to go
there. But what I can tell you in discussions,
especially with the Senate sponsors on this legislation
who had wanted something even a little tougher at one
point during the session, that they -- and they were not
real happy about some language coming out of the bill at
the last minute that related to refunds, that they did
indicate we'll come back next year and try to get some
of these things that didn't get in the bill this year.
So that's one thing I can tell you.

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And I think that any time you pass something that does have a significant impact, the Legislature is going to come back and take a look to see how it has worked. But other than that, I'm not going there with my crystal ball.

MR. KISER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Sure.

MR. KISER: In answer to your question, yes, I think they are coming back. Yes, the people that want to do away with the whole clause are energized. You saw the article in Sunday's paper talking about the cost of nuclear versus natural gas. I think there's going to be much more of that kind of look. And I think that they are going to look very closely at how we implement this new section.

It's going to be -- they are going to be right 1 2 on top of it. So I think it is coming back, and I think 3 a lot more questions are going to be asked, and we'll 4 just have to see how it plays out. But that's my read on it from the discussions I've had with people. 5 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Can we talk about how we 6 7 plan on implementing it this year? MR. BAEZ: Well, can I just interject? I'm 8 9 very wary of discussing implementation on something that 10 hasn't become law yet. 11 COMMISSIONER BROWN: That's a good answer. 12 MR. BAEZ: So --13 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good answer. 14 MR. KISER: He dodged that one, didn't he? 15 (Laugher.) 16 MR. BAEZ: And just as a prelude to it, 17 Commissioner -- I'm sorry, I'm not trying to shut down the discussion; that's not my intent. 18 19 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you. 20 MR. BAEZ: But there is -- you know, there's 21 an appropriate time to talk about implementation, and 22 maybe this isn't it, especially when we are still trying

to deal with how we're going to propose to implement it.

I don't think that has been reduced to writing, if you

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will.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Braulio, when is our next 1 Internal Affairs, though? 2 3 MR. BAEZ: It is in June. I don't have a -the 25th. So that would have been -- that would have --4 I'm not clear on what the cut-off date for signing of 5 the bill. Does anyone --6 7 MS. PENNINGTON: There's no cut-off date. It's only fourteen days once it gets to the Governor. 8 9 There's no cut-off for getting it to the Governor. 10 MR. BAEZ: That's my impression. 11 CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: But what date does it --12 MS. PENNINGTON: July 1. 13 MR. BAEZ: July 1. 14 MS. PENNINGTON: Yes, sir. 15 CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: So anytime between now and 16 July 1, in essence -- it's not in effect. So anytime 17 after July 1, it's in effect. So I think we could be 18 doing the work before then, and then post July 1 we can 19 really start talking about implementation. 20 COMMISSIONER BROWN: That's what I'd like. 21 MR. BAEZ: What I had wanted to finish up 22 saying is that it's our intention to have digested the 23 bill and then have a proper discussion as to how the 24 implementation of it, how we would propose to implement

it. It's ultimately you all's decision to have, you

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know, to have the discussion of whether our proposal 1 meets with your --2 3 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I just want to be 4 proactive. MR. BAEZ: Oh, it is -- we are being as 5 proactive as we can be, given the uncertainty at this 6 7 point of whether we need to be more active or not. That's kind of -- I know it's convoluted, but --8 9 CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Commissioner Balbis. 10 COMMISSIONER BALBIS: And I think on the same 11 vein of being proactive, I mean, we have testimony 12 coming in for this year's clause proceedings. So I 13 don't want to have to wait until an Internal Affairs 14 discussion to have staff -- I'm prehearing officer on 15 the clauses, so if there's something that we need to 16 modify --17 MR. BAEZ: We're discussing it in the back 18 room as we speak, among staff as we speak. I'm not sure 19 -- and if it is your pleasure, Commissioners, we will 20 come forth with an implementation project on the bill, 21 if that is the point in time at which it's your pleasure 22 to discuss it. CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Let me jump in here. 23 conversation with the Executive Director and with our 24

General Counsel on this has been this; first of all, we

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need to understand what the language says and sort of lay out what the changes are. Once we identify what the changes truly are, then we can start talking about what changes we need to have within our processes and so forth.

So I think they are in the process of doing that now. And understand this, as Curt alluded to, there's the language of the bill, then there's the intent, and then there's all the pitfalls around it. So we have to be very cautious as to how we deal with this. So I think it's most appropriate for us to have something in writing before us before we truly begin having discussions on things that may not say what we think they say. So --

MR. BAEZ: Mr. Chairman, if I might. In further answer to your question, Commissioner Balbis, all of the timing and the upcoming clause hearings and how whatever we -- whatever you all decide is proper to implement gets implemented has that in mind, as well. So it will be our goal to consider the whole of how it gets dovetailed into processes that already exist.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Commissioner Edgar.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: Mr. Chairman, as is usually the case, I could not agree more with the

comments that you just shared with us. Thank you, of course, for -- I know you being proactive and working with our staff during the session and immediately after the session as we are all trying to figure out where the dust had settled.

But with that said, you know, we have here what is termed legislative update. Our staff just labeled this significant legislation. And, therefore, for us to have the opportunity to ask some very general questions is to me different than asking for today a detailed implementation plan.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Sure.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: I think there's some space in between there. So I just have two questions immediately. One would be, since you have just labeled this significant, what is it that you deem significant?

And secondly, Katherine, you noted that -- I believe I heard you say that a new provision in the statute requires a feasibility analysis after a NRC license would be received. How is that feasibility analysis different than the feasibility analysis that we have done on a year-by-year basis?

MS. PENNINGTON: After the licensing is received?

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: After the license is

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MS. PENNINGTON: Okay.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: If I heard you correctly.

MS. PENNINGTON: Okay. Let me answer that question first. Once the license and certification is obtained, the IOU must come back to the Commission and petition for approval to move forward with pre-construction. It does not specify a feasibility analysis, per se, except that --

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: I thought that's what you said.

MS. PENNINGTON: -- the facility remains feasible, and that the costs are reasonable, projected costs are reasonable, which is -- and it does not require -- that's one thing, one of the things that Mark's unit will take a look at, is just how that relates to the feasibility analysis that is currently conducted every year. And that's one of the things that they will take a look at is how that will mesh into what we are -- do existing for that.

COMMISSIONER EDGAR: Thank you.

MS. PENNINGTON: And then the answer to your first question is, it's significant in that it's probably one of the first times since I've actually been here that there will likely be, from Mark's unit working with the Executive Director's Office, that there will be an implementation plan. There may or may not be rule revisions.

So there are several factors that staff will take a look at to ensure implementation goes smoothly. So it would -- and it may change the way business is conducted. So we don't know that yet, but because of that it -- significant might not be the right word, but it's more than passing legislation.

MR. KISER: Well, it's significant just from
the dollar amount --

MS. PENNINGTON: Well, that is significant.

MR. KISER: -- that she has specified on the AFUDC rate. I mean, that's a pretty hefty chunk. And I would also point out that during the whole process that the two utilities that are in the nuclear business opposed the bill, did not want any changes, did not approve any of those changes. So we have yet to hear anything from them either, yet, and probably it will have to play out a little bit, as to whether this affects whether they go forward or not.

There was always -- one of the issues was, well, how much changing to the current law can you do without them saying, well, we're not going to do this anymore because you have now taken away so many

incentives to do it. They have been real silent about that, so we don't know where they are in that process.

But in terms of significant, I guess it is significant because obviously this whole process involves a lot of money, and they've changed and put in some new requirements in terms of these reviews. And the loss of -- from the company's perspective, a loss of a significant amount of revenue, because that AFUDC rate is going to be changed to a rate that fluctuates each year as opposed to one that was set that they get through the whole time period. That's going to change each year.

MS. PENNINGTON: One of the other changes in the legislation is that it adds a -- I think Mark's word has been a layer, perhaps a layer of regulatory approval required in that they must come back. The IOU must come back to the Commission before it can proceed with preconstruction and construction. That is a new step in the process, and they are taking a look at, you know, how that will be implemented.

So there is some -- and then there is something else in the bill that basically says during the preconstruction phase any preconstruction materials or equipment purchases that exceed 1 percent of the total project cost must be approved by the Commission.

It sounds a little bit like almost a contract manager approach to it, and they'll be sorting out what exactly that means, and what is a preconstruction material or preconstruction equipment. How that will be defined, because it is not defined in the legislation.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Mark, you joined us at the table. Is there something you wanted to --

MR. FUTRELL: Just in case there's any
questions. Since there may be some questions, and so
I'm --

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Well, I look forward to additional briefings with our staff. And I know my Commissioners, fellow Commissioners also will welcome that, too, especially prior to our next Internal Affairs meeting. So, thank you, Katherine.

MS. PENNINGTON: Uh-huh.

A couple of other bills that we kind of passed that really don't affect the agency too much or just might be of interest to you. One is Senate Bill 2, which is the Ethics Bill, and our legal staff are looking at that right now. And I don't have a summary of the final document for you. A lot of things went into and out of that bill during the legislative session, but I don't think that there are any big

jump-out-at-anybody surprises. At one point there was, like, an eight-year prohibition on post-service employment or something like that, but that kind of stuff is not in this legislation. But we will be providing that summary when we do our end-of-session summary.

The public meetings bill. I talked about that one a little bit last year; it did not pass. It did pass this year. We don't see any adverse impact or any changes to our current processes simply because the only wording in the bill last year that caused us to ask a couple of questions has been changed a little bit. And that was the language that, you know, you had to provide an opportunity for public testimony at a public hearing prior to a decision being made.

The language last year said that you could —
it didn't have to be the meeting at which the decision
was made as long as it was — the public hearing was
held in close proximity to the location where the
decision was made, which when we have service hearings
in the service areas, and then in Tallahassee you make
your decision — we weren't real sure. But that
language has now changed to that it must be approximate
time, close in time to the time that the decision is
made. So we don't see anything changing how we do

business with that one.

The --

MR. KISER: Katherine, let me --

MS. PENNINGTON: Yes, sir.

MR. KISER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: (Indicating.)

MR. KISER: Last year, some of you may recall, we were a little concerned. Because when we are in our quasi-judicial operation and we've had service hearings and customers have already had an opportunity to speak, one of our concerns was that they would then come to the rate hearing and want to be heard all over again, and that the bill, you know, might authorize that.

But we received assurances that the language that was in there, and I was assured, again, by Senator Negron that when we are acting in our quasi-judicial mode, as long as those people have had a chance somewhere along the process, that they could not use that as a right they had of getting heard right at the time the rate hearing is being held. That would be, you know, pretty much the Commission and the parties and that's it. So that continued on. We got those assurances last year, and that's still, I think, protected.

MS. PENNINGTON: Just a couple more. There

was a pretty big, mostly voluminous piece of legislation relating to administrative procedures which just changed noticing requirements and rule challenges and things like that. That did not pass. And so we do expect to see some administrative procedure laws proposed again next year.

You heard and read about some of the fracturing bills. The bills that were before the Legislature only required DEP to maintain a chemical registry of the substances that were used in the fracturing process, and then there was a public records exemption relating to that. Those bills did not pass either, so those are two that I would expect to return.

Representative Mayfield had a bill we spoke about relating to water utilities, that when the utility has customers outside the city boundary and how they would, that they would be represented by, they would be regulated by the Public Service Commission. That bill did not pass either. She's still very interested in that, as I'm sure you know, so we may see that bill back next year.

Those are the only things I wanted to highlight today, and then at the next Internal Affairs meeting we will provide the final summary for you. And hopefully by then the Governor will have acted on all of

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CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right.

MS. PENNINGTON: I didn't know if Braulio wanted to talk about the budget. That's probably --

MR. BAEZ: Yes, I've got some brief -- again, harkening back to the things that are not yet final, but --

MS. PENNINGTON: The clock is ticking on that one, though.

MR. BAEZ: The clock is ticking. I think the Governor has until May 24th to sign the budget. So I'll give you brief highlights of the Conference Report.

As I had told you before, our budget, we had presented a continuation budget. It came through pretty clean. There's only a couple of notable reductions. We've got a current year budget reduction of \$92,000 that's tied to DMS's real estate initiatives, so that's mostly rent and space related. And beyond that, a recurring reduction of \$100,000.

We went through practically untouched, I'm pleased to say. And there are other small reductions and adjustments for data processing and the like, so nothing major there.

Major points relevant to us, there are pay increases in the Conference Report. The larger one

effective October 1st, 2013, is \$1,400 for employees earning 40,000 or less; one thousand for those earning more than 40,000, and that includes all the employees, all the way to the top of the agency.

And then there's a merit bonus component, also effective October 1st. It's a \$600 one-time bonus for all eligible permanent employees. There are some requirements. The most notable one is that there is a percentage requirement, maximum 35 percent of your agency FTEs. For us that works out to about 100/102 positions.

The other components briefly are a little bit more complicated, they involve the evaluation components. Part of that also includes a peer evaluation. So our HR folks and our Administration folks are trying to figure out how we're going to implement that piece, and if there are more effective ways for us to be able to implement it. But like I said, that's a May 24th date for the conference report.

CHAIRMAN BRISE: Any questions on the budget?

MR. BAEZ: And then the last little nit, we heard about the storm preparation efforts and storm hardening efforts of our utilities. Just to remind you that we, too, engage in disaster-type preparations. So our COOP Plan, the Continuity of Operations Plan, has

been updated and submitted to the Division of Emergency Management, as well. Things like call-trees, who calls who, when and where, has been updated, tested and confirmed. Critical assessment teams, critical incident assessment teams have been laid out. The first-aid kits have been re-stocked with Reader's Digest, because, you know, laughter is the best medicine.

We've also, on a serious note, we've also updated our best practices in terms of handling suspicious packages, as well, so our troops have been properly trained and informed and updated on how to do that.

Emergency PA systems have been rolled out on our switch. Signage of safe locations and CPR training for all of those floor wardens. That's a scary term, but we've got to call them something, right? They've all been certified with CPR. So we're, you know, in short, we're ready to go for whatever happens.

And if you all don't have any questions, that's the end of mine.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right. Any questions?

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good job on the budget.

MR. BAEZ: Well, we were fortunate. I think sometimes it's better to be lucky than good.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Right.

(Laughter.)

have good relationships over in the Legislature, and they came true this time around. So thanks to all who were involved, really.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Any other matters to bring up

lot of hard work by a lot of people, I should mention

that. Not just on the legislative and technical side,

but in the administration and the budget side, as well.

So we are very, very fortunate, as I've already said, to

MR. BAEZ: And we did have a lot -- it was a

today?

MR. KISER: Hotdog party.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: Yes.

MR. BAEZ: Yes, there is. There is the trademark "Hot Diggitty Dog" following Internal Affairs. Feel free to join us under the oak in the front yard.

CHAIRMAN BRISÉ: All right. If there's nothing else before us today, Commissioner Graham moves we rise.

(The Internal Affairs meeting concluded at 10:30 a.m.)

STATE OF FLORIDA)

: CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

COUNTY OF LEON)

I, JANE FAUROT, RPR, Chief, Hearing Reporter
Services Section, FPSC Division of Commission Clerk, 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

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 28th day of May, 2013.

JANE FAUROT, RPR
Official FPSC Hearings Reporter
(850) 413-6732