1	FILED 9/13/2017 DOCUMENT NO. 07632-2 FPSC - COMMISSION CL	000001
1	FLORIDA	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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3	In the Matter of:	
4		DOCKET NO. 20170123-EI
5	PETITION FOR APPROV ARRANGEMENT TO MIT	-
6	UNFAVORABLE IMPACT OF ST. JOHNS RIVER POWER PARK, BY	
7	FLORIDA POWER & LIC	
8		/
9		
10	PROCEEDINGS:	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
11	COMMISSIONER	CHAIRMAN JULIE I. BROWN
12	TANICITATING.	PREHEARING OFFICER
13	DATE:	Wednesday, September 6, 2017
14	TIME:	Commenced at 1:30 p.m. Concluded at 1:51 p.m.
15	PLACE:	Betty Easley Conference Center
16		Room 148 4075 Esplanade Way
17		Tallahassee, Florida
18	REPORTED BY:	LINDA BOLES, CRR, RPR Official FPSC Reporter
19		(850) 413-6734
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	FLORIDA 1	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

APPEARANCES:

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CHARLES REHWINKEL, DEPUTY PUBLIC COUNSEL; and STEPHANIE A. MORSE, ESQUIRES, Office of Public Counsel, c/o the Florida Legislature, 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, appearing on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida.

JOHN T. BUTLER, ESQUIRE, 700 Universe Boulevard, Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420, on behalf of Florida Power & Light Company.

DANIJELA JANJIC, KYESHA MAPP, and MARGO DUVAL, ESQUIRES, FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing on behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission Staff.

KEITH HETRICK, GENERAL COUNSEL; and MARY ANNE HELTON, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL, ESQUIRES, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing as advisors to the Florida Public Service Commission.

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PROCEEDINGS

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Good afternoon. (Chorus of greetings.)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Are the parties ready?

All right. Today is September 6th. This is Docket No. 20170123-EI. I'd like to convene this prehearing at this time.

Staff, can you please read the notice?

MS. JANJIC: By notice issued August 28th, 2017, this time and place was set for a prehearing conference in Docket No. 20170123-EI. The purpose of the prehearing is set out more fully in the notice.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you. We'll take appearances, starting with FPL. Mr. Butler, it's nice to see you here.

MR. BUTLER: Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here. Not so much a pleasure getting here but a pleasure being here.

> CHAIRMAN BROWN: I can understand. MR. BUTLER: John Butler appearing for FPL. CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

MS. MORSE: Stephanie Morse with the Office of Public Counsel, and with me is Charles Rehwinkel.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

Staff.

MS. JANJIC: For Commission staff, Danijela Janjic, Margo Duval, and Kyesha Mapp.

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MS. HELTON: Mary Anne Helton here as your advisor. I'd also like to make an appearance for your General Counsel, Keith Hetrick.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you. And we will get into this prehearing. I'd like to have this go pretty swiftly so that folks can get out of here and take care of their affairs.

So with that note, we do have a preliminary matter. Because of Hurricane Irma and its pending movement, and the Governor declaring a state of emergency, we are going to have to postpone this hearing for two weeks to September 27th.

15 MR. BUTLER: A day that just happened to16 become available.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: The date just happened to be open. So we're going to move the hearing to September 27th at 1:30. That's going to shift some dates around, and we'll get into that, including the post-hearing briefs. But I just want to make sure if there are any objections. FPL, any objections?

MR. BUTLER: I think that would work fine, and I think it would be good from our perspective. One of our principal witnesses has a big accounting role for

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1	the storm, cost recovery accounting, so that would be	
2	helpful.	
3	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Great.	
4	MR. BUTLER: Thank you.	
5	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.	
6	OPC.	
7	MR. REHWINKEL: Madam Chairman, I was just	
8	informed that our witness has made travel arrangements	
9	to be in Montana the day before that. So we would not	
10	be able to put her on the stand on the 27th.	
11	CHAIRMAN BROWN: When would she be available?	
12	MR. REHWINKEL: Okay.	
13	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Monday, the 25th?	
14	MR. REHWINKEL: Yes.	
15	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yeah?	
16	MR. REHWINKEL: She said the Monday before,	
17	which is the 25th, and then she will be back on	
18	October 3rd.	
19	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. I would prefer to do	
20	it the 25th. FPL, do you have an objection to moving	
21	the hearing to September 25th at 1:30?	
22	MR. BUTLER: I think on that let me check	
23	and see. If I before the end of the prehearing	
24	conference I should be able to have an answer for you,	
25	but let me just double-check, please.	

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Sounds good. 1 2 Thank you. 3 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you. CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. Are there any 4 other preliminary matters that we need to address at 5 this time? Staff, are you aware of any other 6 7 preliminary matters that we need to address? MS. JANJIC: Staff is aware of none at this 8 9 time. CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Let's get into the 10 Draft Prehearing Order. All right? And we're going to 11 go through the sections, and I want the parties to 12 please let me know if there are any corrections or 13 14 changes that we need to make. We're going to start with the case background, 15 16 Section I. Any changes? 17 Seeing none, we'll move to Section II, which 18 is the conduct of proceedings. Any changes or 19 corrections? Seeing none, we'll move to Section III, which 20 21 is the jurisdiction. Any changes? 22 Seeing none, Section IV, which is the procedure for handling confidential information. 23 Staff. 24 MS. JANJIC: Staff will note that when 25 confidential information is used in the hearing, parties

must have copies for the Commissioners, necessary staff, and the court reporter in red envelopes clearly marked with the nature of the contents. Any party wishing to examine the confidential material that is not subject to an order granting confidentiality shall, shall be provided a copy in the same fashion as provided to the Commissioners subject to the execution of any appropriate protective agreement with the owner of the material.

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CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. Any questions on Section IV?

Seeing none, we'll move to Section V, which is the prefiled testimony and exhibits and witnesses. Staff.

MS. JANJIC: If witnesses are presented, staff will suggest that the witness summary testimony be no longer than three minutes.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you. Any questions or objections or -- moving on to Section VI, the order of witnesses.

MR. BUTLER: Excuse me.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yes, Mr. Butler.

MR. BUTLER: Madam Chair, just to be clear, we have a witness on rebuttal. And Mr. Ferguson would get an additional three minutes to summarize his rebuttal

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testimony; is that correct?

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CHAIRMAN BROWN: That's correct.

MR. BUTLER: Okay. Thank you. That would be fine.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Section VI, the order of witnesses. Are there any witnesses that can be stipulated, parties? Pretty please.

MR. BUTLER: I don't think so at this time. We had a discussion of that yesterday, but we're still working on getting resolution. But at this point I don't think we can. I would ask that Mr. Forrest, who is our overview witness, be moved to the beginning of the order instead of our third witness. That would just be a more logical presentation.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: I don't have a problem with that.

OPC? Okay. Seeing none, we'll go ahead and do that.

All right. Any other matters to be taken up under order of witnesses?

Seeing none, we'll get to the basic positions, Section VII. Do the parties have any changes to their basic positions? FPL? OPC?

MR. BUTLER: No.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: No.

Staff?

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MS. JANJIC: Only if there are changes announced. We will recommend that any changes to basic positions be submitted in writing by no later than noon, Tuesday, September 12th.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

Moving to the issues and the positions on Section VIII. Do the parties have any changes to the positions?

MR. BUTLER: If you will indulge me for a moment, I have what's, I guess, more of a comment on the OPC position regarding Issue 1 here.

First of all, we understand, and I think OPC agrees with this, that this is a legal issue. And the significance of that in terms of our responding to their position is that unlike something where you've got the opportunity in cross-examination to find out where parties stand on something, you know, legal issues typically you just brief and you just brief them simultaneously.

OPC's position is that, you know, our proposed approach to deferring the amortization of a couple of the regulatory assets violates our settlement agreement. They haven't said in their position and the issue doesn't identify what provisions of the settlement

agreement they feel would be violated, and we feel like we're at a real disadvantage here.

I mean, first of all, whether Ms. Merchant's view of the amortization or our view of it is chosen by the Commission isn't going to affect the base rates we charge. So our starting point is not really seeing where their concern goes, but obviously that's their argument to make. But our concern is that without provisions being identified that they say are being violated, we kind of don't know what to respond to in our brief. You know, I fear that we'll see their view on this for the first time in their brief without a chance to respond to it.

And, you know, if there are particular provisions, paragraphs of the settlement agreement they think are violated, I think it would be appropriate for them to point them out. If there aren't, if they're just saying that sort of the totality of the agreement would be -- you know, the spirit of it would be violated, whatever, then that would be fine.

But we're going to have a hard time sort of appropriately responding to their contention the way that their position on this issue is worded.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you for highlighting that.

OPC.

MR. REHWINKEL: Madam Chairman, Charles Rehwinkel with the Public Counsel's office. This would be unprecedented for the Commission to allow another party to dictate a party's position on any issue.

FPL and the Public Counsel were coequal signatories to the 2016 agreement. The 2016 agreement is a comprehensive agreement that has multiple provisions that all interrelate and was adopted as being in the public interest in totality. And we have suggested that it is violative of the agreement and the base rate freeze anti-circumvention provision, and we have a position on that that we will make in our legal brief. And the company can argue why they believe that it is, it is consistent with the agreement, but it is not our duty to point out the failures of the company with regard to processes that they are undertaking to undermine the intent and the letter of the agreement.

And if, if they want to assert that without providing any justification, that's, that's fine, and that's their burden. I mean, that's the way they would meet their burden.

But in order to maintain an issue, one does not have to present a winning legal argument in order to raise a legal issue, nor does one have to show its cards

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and write its brief before the brief is due. So we feel 1 very strongly about this. We will argue about the 2 settlement agreement in its totality. 3 But no one provision by itself is dispositive 4 of this issue. It is the agreement in multiple places, 5 and we will bring that to the Commission's attention in 6 7 light of all the facts and circumstances and the law, as well as the language of the agreement. So, I mean, we 8 9 would reject any notion that we have to make our position suit FP&L's wishes. 10 11 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Just a question, 12 Mr. Rehwinkel. You said that, that you believe -- it is 13 your belief that FPL is violating the base rate freeze 14 and the anti -- you said anti --15 MR. REHWINKEL: Circumvention, yeah. CHAIRMAN BROWN: So it's your position that 16 17 it's -- that they're in violation of the settlement 18 agreement in its totality and not any specific provision? 19 MR. REHWINKEL: Not any specific provision by 20 21 itself. 22 CHAIRMAN BROWN: By itself. 23 MR. REHWINKEL: That's correct. 24 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Mr. Butler, would you like to 25 add anything?

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MR. BUTLER: That provides some measure of clarity. I still think this is unusual, if not unprecedented, to say that something violates an agreement and not say what it is, what it is you think that it's violating.

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I mean, I'll point out that the base rate freeze anti-circumvention provision, there's no provision in the agreement by that name. If they think one of them, you know, one of the paragraphs is -constitutes that, or two or three paragraphs, let us know, and that will certainly help.

I will throw out an idea that might very well get rejected, but I'm going to ask anyway. Would it be possible for there to be a brief round of responsive briefs? I guess it would be appropriate for OPC to have one as well, strictly on the legal issue, so that we have the opportunity to protect ourselves if they've got an argument that just hasn't even occurred to us and that we have some need to be able to respond it.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: So you want to brief just this issue apart from the other issues that are remaining.

MR. BUTLER: Actually what I was suggesting is that we would brief this one along with the other issues initially, but then have five days later or something

000014 like that with some small page limit, but just an 1 opportunity. And we would extend the opportunity to OPC 2 as well that, you know, we would be able to respond to 3 whatever was said in their position on the legal issue. 4 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Mr. Rehwinkel. 5 MR. REHWINKEL: Madam Chairman, I believe 6 7 that's not an unreasonable approach to this issue. Recognizing that we believe the burden is always with 8 9 the company, we're more than happy to put our argument out there and let them respond to that under these 10 circumstances. That would be fine with us. 11 12 And it would not need to be a lot of pages of 13 response, and I think a week of response time would be, 14 would be adequate. CHAIRMAN BROWN: After the post-hearing 15 briefs. 16 17 MR. REHWINKEL: That's correct, yes. 18 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Staff, are you clear? 19 I think the parties have -- agree on this proposal, and 20 I'm okay with it as well. 21 MS. JANJIC: Yes, we're clear. 22 CHAIRMAN BROWN: So an additional five days, 23 would that suffice, seven? 24 MR. BUTLER: About five business days. 25 That'll be seven or whatever it turns out to be. You FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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know, a week of business days is fine.

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CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. There -- I've asked staff right now if they can come up with that date. So --

MS. JANJIC: It's hard not knowing when the hearing is. I guess when we come to an agreement when the hearing is, then we can look at the briefs and then, I guess --

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay.

MR. BUTLER: And I'm still waiting for the --I just, I wanted to check with our witnesses to be sure we didn't have a problem similarly and --

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Absolutely. We'll -- you know what? We'll deal with the briefs and the additional time period at the end of the prehearing conference. Okay? Thank you, parties, for working together on that.

Okay. Are there any other changes that need to be made on issues or positions?

MS. JANJIC: Based on discussion with the parties during the notice meeting yesterday, staff would just note that there are proposed Type 2 stipulations on Issues 3, 7, 8, and 10.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Wonderful. I appreciate the parties coming to an agreement on these stipulations.

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1	And since we're buying an additional two weeks here for	
2	the parties, I'd encourage both of you all to work	
3	together in your efforts to find a mutually beneficial	
4	resolution for all.	
5	MR. BUTLER: Am I just missing it, or is that	
6	not yet appearing in the Draft Prehearing Order?	
7	MS. JANJIC: It has not been updated, but it	
8	will be after this.	
9	MR. BUTLER: Okay.	
10	MS. JANJIC: It will be.	
11	MR. BUTLER: It will be?	
12	MS. JANJIC: Uh-huh.	
13	MR. BUTLER: Okay. Thank you.	
14	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Again, encourage the parties	
15	to use the next two weeks' time to come to a mutually	
16	beneficial solution on additional issues you can	
17	stipulate.	
18	Mr. Rehwinkel, you look confused.	
19	MR. REHWINKEL: I wasn't, I wasn't clear. I	
20	was speaking with co-counsel about what was the	
21	question about what is or isn't in the	
22	CHAIRMAN BROWN: The Type 2 stipulations.	
23	MS. JANJIC: The Type 2 stipulations listed.	
24	MR. REHWINKEL: Oh, okay, I see.	
25	CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Staff, any other	

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issues under Section VIII?

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MS. JANJIC: No. Since they've resolved the issue on Issue 1, there's nothing further that we need to discuss.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Parties, any additional issues under Section VIII?

Seeing none, we'll go ahead and move to Section IX, which is the exhibit list.

MS. JANJIC: Staff prepared a Comprehensive Exhibit List which lists all prefiled exhibits and those exhibits staff wishes to include in the record. The draft list was circulated to the parties to see if they had any changes, any objections to the Comprehensive Exhibit List or any of the staff's exhibits being entered into the record. We have not heard back from the parties on the Comprehensive Exhibit List.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Parties, any comments on the exhibit list?

Seeing none, moving to Section X, which is --MR. BUTLER: Sorry.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: I'm sorry.

MR. BUTLER: Just to be clear, I have no comments on the exhibit list section and the prehearing order draft. I haven't had a chance yet to look at the Comprehensive Exhibit List, but hopefully we'll do so

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this afternoon.

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CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay.

MR. BUTLER: And I'd also just take this 3 opportunity to say we've checked, and all of our 4 witnesses are okay with the September 25 date. 5 CHAIRMAN BROWN: That's great. Thank you. 6 7 MR. BUTLER: Certainly. CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. So your comments are 8 noted on Section IX. 9 We're moving to Section X, which is the 10 proposed stipulations, which we just discussed. But for 11 clarity of the record, if you want to --12 13 MS. JANJIC: As noted previously, the proposed 14 Type 2 stipulations are on Issues 3, 7, 8, and 10. 15 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Thank you. Section XI, pending motions. 16 MS. JANJIC: Staff would note that there are 17 18 no pending motions. 19 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you. Section XII, pending confidentiality motions. 20 21 MS. JANJIC: There are no pending 22 confidentiality motions. 23 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Excellent work. Thank you. 24 All right. And the last section, post-hearing 25 procedures.

000019 MS. JANJIC: If the parties wish to file a 1 post-hearing brief, staff recommends briefs are no 2 longer than 30 pages. 3 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any objections? Are all 4 parties in agreement with that? 30 pages it is. 5 MR. BUTLER: That sounds fine. And then is 6 7 this the place where we would add the language about the responsive briefs on Issue 1? 8 9 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yes, this is the exact -- do 10 you propose an additional limit? MR. BUTLER: I think -- I'm sorry. 11 12 MS. JANJIC: Oh, go ahead. 13 MR. BUTLER: I would say for pages that ten pages should be plenty. 14 15 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Totally, yeah. MR. BUTLER: Yeah. 16 17 CHAIRMAN BROWN: I think that's fair. So 18 we'll do ten pages for the response brief. 19 All right. And now we're going to get to the dates. Actually, staff, will you go over some of the 20 21 other matters under that? 22 MS. JANJIC: Okay. Let's see. Staff will 23 recommend that a summary of each position set off with 24 asterisks should be included in that statement. 25 So looking at a hearing date of the 25th, that FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

000020 would mean that the original briefs -- or the regular 1 briefs would be due on the 9th, October 9th. 2 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. Any objection? Do you 3 guys have your calendars out? Okay. That's two weeks. 4 All right. And then the response brief? 5 MS. JANJIC: That would be on the 16th. 6 7 CHAIRMAN BROWN: October 16th. Close of business on both of those days. 8 9 MR. BUTLER: Right. CHAIRMAN BROWN: Okay. All right. So it 10 looks like then staff will have enough time for it to 11 12 appear before the agenda or will work very diligent so 13 that this will be presented to the Commission --14 Commissioners on the 7th, November 7th agenda. 15 MS. JANJIC: November 7th agenda, yes. CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. That works. 16 17 Any objections? No? 18 MR. REHWINKEL: No. 19 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you. 20 MR. REHWINKEL: While we're talking about 21 dates, if I could ask, I think the staff indicated that 22 if there were revisions to the basic position, they 23 could be made as late as the 12th. Was that the date? 24 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Next Tuesday? 25 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yes. 1 MR. REHWINKEL: Would, would that date also 2 3 apply to any revisions to the staff issue list? Would we be able to use the same date for -- I mean, the staff 4 exhibit list. 5 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Staff? 6 7 MS. JANJIC: We would like that finalized sooner than later. 8 9 MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. What would be a good --MS. JANJIC: But if we -- the 12th would be 10 11 the absolute latest. 12 Kandis, is that okay? **MS. MAY:** (Indicating affirmatively.) 13 14 MS. JANJIC: Yeah, the 12th would be the 15 latest. MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. Thank you. So that 16 17 would be the deadline for revisions to basic position or the staff exhibit list. 18 CHAIRMAN BROWN: That's right. 19 20 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN BROWN: And, again, that's close of business on the 12th. And if there are any --22 23 MR. REHWINKEL: Yes. I think she said noon. 24 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Oh, no, I would suggest close 25 of business.

MR. REHWINKEL: Okay. 1 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Close of business. Sorry. 2 3 Given the hurricane, and if there are complications, if any of the parties are having 4 complications with communications, please try to get in 5 touch with us, and we'll be willing to be flexible. 6 7 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you. CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. Let's see. Any 8 9 other matters? 10 Section XIV, rulings. MS. JANJIC: Staff recommends that the 11 Prehearing Officer make a ruling that opening 12 13 statements, if any, should not exceed seven minutes per 14 party, unless any party chooses to waive its opening statement. 15 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Given the limited amount of 16 17 issues here, I think that is very generous. I mean, I 18 would suggest five, but I would encourage the parties to 19 use their time judiciously. 20 Other matters. 21 MS. JANJIC: Staff is aware of none. 22 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Are the parties -- do the 23 parties have any other matters? 24 Seeing none, you guys get out of here. 25 MR. BUTLER: All right.

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1	CHAIRMAN BROWN: This Prehearing Conference is
2	adjourned. Safe travels.
3	(Prehearing conference adjourned at 1:51 p.m.)
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	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

000024 1 STATE OF FLORIDA) 2 : CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER COUNTY OF LEON) 3 4 I, LINDA BOLES, CRR, RPR, Official Commission Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the time and place herein 5 stated. 6 IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I 7 stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript constitutes a true 8 transcription of my notes of said proceedings. 9 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor 10 am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I 11 financially interested in the action. 12 DATED THIS 13th day of September, 2017. 13 14 inda Boles 15 16 LINDA BOLES, CRR, RPR FPSC Official Hearings Reporter 17 (850) 413-6734 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION