

Matthew R. Bernier
Associate General Counsel
Duke Energy Florida, LLC.

September 26, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Carlotta Stauffer, Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Application for limited proceeding to approve 2017 second revised and restated settlement agreement, including certain rate adjustments, by Duke Energy Florida, LLC; Docket No. 20170183-EI

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

Please find enclosed for electronic filing, Duke Energy Florida, LLC's (DEF) Response to Staff's Fifth Data Request.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please feel free to call me at (850) 521-1428 should you have any questions concerning this filing.

Respectfully,

s/Matthew R. Bernier

Matthew R. Bernier
Matthew.Bernier@duke-energy.com

MRB/mw Enclosures

Duke Energy Florida, LLC

Docket No.: 20170183-EI **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished via electronic mail to the following this 26th day of September, 2017.

s/Matthew R. Bernier

Attorney

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DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC'S RESPONSE TO STAFF'S FIFTH DATA REQUEST (NO.16) REGARDING DEF'S APPLICATION FOR LIMITED PROCEEDING TO APPROVE 2017 SECOND REVISED AND RESTATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING CERTAIN RATE ADJUSTMENTS DOCKET NO. 20170183-EI

- 16. At the September 15, 2017 Informal Meeting to discuss issues related to Docket No. 20170183-EI, DEF represented that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding has historically been unavailable to the company.
 - a. Notwithstanding the aforementioned historical unavailability, in light of Hurricane Irma, please describe DEF's efforts to contact FEMA regarding the company's eligibility for financial recovery options. If no efforts to contact FEMA have been made thus far, please state when such efforts will occur.
 - b. Please describe what options for recovery are available to DEF through FEMA under the pertinent law. If no options are available to DEF through FEMA, please explain why.
 - c. Please describe any other efforts to solicit funding or other alternatives through any other means (e.g. local/state/federal programs) that could offset any storm recovery.

RESPONSE

Investor owned utilities are prohibited by federal law from accessing funds directly through FEMA for purposes of recovery under the Stafford Act (P.L. 100-707). However, given the spate of recent natural disasters and the significant damage incurred in Florida, Texas and Puerto Rico, Congress is expected to consider additional relief legislation that may provide support to our customers through tax incentives, additional Community Block Development Grant funds or other means. We intend to closely follow these activities and continue to advocate on behalf of Duke Energy Florida customers. We will pursue potential opportunities as appropriate to access federal resources to offset costs incurred during restoration efforts.

We cannot predict the outcome of this effort. However, we believe it is our responsibility to work with the FPSC and Governor Scott to minimize the financial impacts on ratepayers.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF PINELLAS

I hereby certify that on this _______ day of September, 2017, before me, an officer duly authorized in the State and County aforesaid to take acknowledgments, personally appeared JAVIER J PORTUONDO, who is personally known to me, and he acknowledged before me that he provided the response to question 16, from STAFF'S FIFTH DATA REQUEST (NO. 16) TO DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC in Docket No. 20170183-EI, and that the response is true and correct based on his personal knowledge.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the State and County aforesaid as of this 22ml day of September, 2017.

Javier J. Portuondo

HELEN M. KYRIAKOU
Commission # FF 038690
Expires October 24, 2017
Bonded Thru Troy Fan Insurance 800-365-7019

Notary Public State of Florida

My Commission Expires:

10-24-2017