BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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| In re: Applications for qualified representative status. | DOCKET NO. 20170008-OTDOCKET NO. 20180008-OTORDER NO. PSC-2018-0008-PCO-OTISSUED: January 2, 2018 |

ORDER ESTABLISHING 2018 DOCKET NUMBER

BY THE COMMISSION:

At the beginning of each year, the Commission establishes a generic docket to handle applications requesting that a person be designated as a qualified representative pursuant to Rule 28-106.106, Florida Administrative Code. Accordingly, we hereby establish Docket No. 20180008-OT, Applications for Qualified Representative Status, for calendar year 2018.

Beginning January 2, 2018, all applications requesting that a person be designated as a qualified representative for calendar year 2018 shall be filed in Docket No. 20180008-OT. All pending applications for calendar year 2018 will be addressed in Docket No. 20180008-OT. Orders granting, denying, or otherwise responding to such applications will be issued in this docket as well.

Persons designated as qualified representatives are authorized to appear before the Commission in any undocketed or docketed matter during the calendar year. At the end of the calendar year, the qualified representative designation expires.[[1]](#footnote-1) This approach avoids redundant applications for qualified representative designation throughout the year. However, it also requires each person seeking to be designated as a qualified representative for the new calendar year to file a new application, irrespective of whether he or she enjoyed that status in the preceding year or years.

 It is therefore

 ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that, beginning January 2, 2018, all applications requesting that a person be designated as a qualified representative, pursuant to Rule 28-106.106, Florida Administrative Code, for calendar year 2018 shall be filed and determined in Docket No. 20180008-OT.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 2nd day of January, 2018.

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|  | /s/ Hong Wang |
|  | HONG WANGChief Deputy Commission Clerk |

Florida Public Service Commission

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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

 The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

 Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person’s right to a hearing.

 Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediated in nature Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

1. This general approach does not preclude our ability in individual cases to designate a person as a qualified representative in a specific docket for more than one year if that is appropriate based on the application. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)