BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 for Florida Public Utilities Company - Electric. FILED: October 17, 2018

JOINT MOTION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY AND THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPUC" or "Company") and the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC"), (collectively, "Joint Movants") by and through their undersigned attorneys, respectfully move the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission" or "FPSC") to temporarily suspend all remaining due dates scheduled in this proceeding. The Joint Movants make this request in light of the 2018 Tax Settlement ("2018 Tax Settlement") to be submitted no later than October 18, 2018, in this proceeding, under separate cover. The Joint Movants anticipate that the need for testimony and a full hearing will be avoided if the Commission approves the Joint Motion to Approve Stipulation and Settlement. In further support of this request to temporarily suspend the schedule, the Joint Movants state:

The Commission's Second Revised Order Establishing Procedure, Order No. 2018-0471-PCO-EI, issued September 21, 2018, provides that a full evidentiary hearing is scheduled to take place in this proceeding on February 5 through February 8, 2019. The Order further provides dates for utility, intervenor, and Commission Staff testimony in this proceeding, as well as a discovery schedule.

As noted, the Joint Movants anticipate filing a Joint Motion to Approve Stipulation and Settlement no later than October 18, 2018. Approval by the Commission of the 2018 Tax Settlement would resolve all issues in this docket. Thus, the Joint Movants respectfully request a temporary suspension of all remaining events and due dates scheduled herein pending Commission consideration of the 2018 Tax Settlement. Temporary suspension of the schedule will save substantial administrative resources for all parties, as well as Commission staff.

The Joint Movants also request that the Commission consider the 2018 Tax Settlement at the Commission's December 2018 Agenda Conference. This timing would enable this matter to proceed to the current February 2019 hearing dates in the event the Commission rejects the 2018 Tax Settlement. In the event a hearing is required, the Joint Movants commit to work together and with Commission Staff to develop a proposed schedule that would enable this matter to proceed to hearing expeditiously.

Each of the Joint Movants agrees with and supports this Joint Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule.

WHEREFORE, FPUC and OPC respectfully request that the Commission enter an order temporarily suspending all remaining events and due dates, pending a ruling on the Joint Motion For Approval of 2018Tax Settlement anticipated to be filed by the parties on October 18, 2018. Respectfully submitted this 17th day of October 2018 by:

/s/Virginia Ponder Virginia Ponder Bar No. 99947 Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street; Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400 (850) 488-9330 ponder.virginia@leg.state.fl.us Attorneys for the Citizens of the State of Florida /s/Beth Keating____

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<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u> <u>Docket No. 20180048-EI</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Joint Motion has been furnished by electronic mail on this 17th day of October, 2018, to the following:

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/s/Virginia Ponder

Virginia Ponder Associate Public Counsel