

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2021 4:56 PM
To: 'messenger@fau.edu'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated efficiency practices

Good Afternoon, Roger Messenger

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200181-EU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz
Commission Deputy Clerk II
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.413.6770

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

-----Original Message-----

From: messenger@everyactioncustom.com <messenger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2021 4:30 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated efficiency practices

Dear Florida PSC Commissioners,

We all know that energy efficiency means using energy smarter. It is the quickest, cleanest, and cheapest way to meet our energy needs while helping Floridians cut energy waste and manage power bills. Helping hard-working families make their homes more efficient, safer, and secure also keeps energy dollars in local communities.

Yet the practices you rely upon in setting goals for the state's largest utilities haven't been modernized in almost 30 years – and that has led to Florida's largest power companies badly trailing leading utilities in the Southeast and across the nation in delivering energy savings to families and businesses. Most recently, this outdated approach led to power companies proposing goals of zero. We can do better.

As you set out to revisit the energy efficiency goal setting rules, please update the economic screening practices so they no longer penalize efficiency measures that meaningfully reduce energy waste for homes or businesses. Isn't the whole idea of an efficiency program, to reduce energy use to meet demand and help customers lower power bills?

It's time to use the rulemaking process to modernize your decades-old practices and consider ways to get utilities to do more on efficiency, in particular for low-income customers. The rule is outdated, we must get it right.

It is especially important to note that in 2021, the overall cost of a zero-energy structure can be less than a similar structure built and operated under current energy codes, i.e., mortgage plus utility bills is less for a zero-energy structure. Furthermore, the utilities are promoting electric vehicles, which is the right thing to do. But to keep them clean as possible, it is important to install about 2 kW of renewable source such as PV to keep each vehicle charged. So, to meet the demand for electricity for electric vehicles, two things need to be done: Promote energy efficiency to free up electricity for vehicles, and encourage the installation of renewables to make up the difference. By doing so, everyone wins - consumer, utility and the planet.

Sincerely,
Roger Messenger
Boca Raton, FL 33487
messenger@fau.edu