

Antonia Hover

From: Adam Teitzman <ATEITZMA@psc.state.fl.us>
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2022 12:57 PM
To: Hong Wang <HWang@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: FW: State Lawmakers Requesting Financial Audit of FPL

Please place the attached letter in the correspondence file for Docket No. 20220000-OT as "CORRESPONDENCE-Consumers & Representatives."

Thank you.

Adam J. Teitzman
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Adam.Teitzman@psc.state.fl.us
850.413.6826

From: Eskamani, Anna <Anna.Eskamani@myfloridahouse.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 11:33 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Chairman Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Cc: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Nixon, Angie <Angie.Nixon@myfloridahouse.gov>; McCurdy, Travaris <Travaris.McCurdy@myfloridahouse.gov>; Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith <carlos@carlosguillermosmith.com>
Subject: State Lawmakers Requesting Financial Audit of FPL

Dear Chairman Clark & Commissioners,

Please see attached letter from myself, Representatives Carlos Guillermo Smith, Angie Nixon, and Travaris McCurdy requesting an audit be conducted on Florida Power & Light's finances. The letter provides greater details as to why we are making this request. We look forward to your response.

With gratitude,

Rep. Eskamani

Representative Anna V. Eskamani
Florida State House District 47
Anna.Eskamani@MyFloridaHouse.gov | 407-376-3609 (cell)
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers



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Please note that Florida has a broad public records law (Chapter 119, F.S.). Most written communications to or from state employees are public records obtainable by the public upon request. Emails sent to me at this email address may be considered public and will only be withheld from disclosure if deemed confidential pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida.



January 5, 2022

Chairman Gary F. Clark & PSC Commissioners
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us
clerk@psc.state.fl.us

RE: Requesting an Audit of Florida Power & Light's Finances

Dear Chairman Clark & Commissioners,

Last year, Floridians watched a series of scandals unfold in their local newspapers, stemming from three "spoiler candidates" who ran in the 2020 election cycle to deceive voters, undermine democracy, and siphon away votes from Democratic candidates running in those same seats.

At the time, nobody knew where the money for these fake candidates came from. The only donor was a brand new political nonprofit called "Grow United" -- but according to reporting by both the [Orlando Sentinel](#) and [Times-Union](#), "Grow United" was a front group set up by political consultants working for Florida Power & Light (FPL).

Those same FPL consultants have set up similar front groups and FPL has given millions of dollars to those groups, which then pass the money around in an apparent effort to hide the fact that FPL is behind it. The CEO of FPL even used a pseudonym email account under the fake name of "Theodore Hayes" to communicate with these consultants about how to hide money.

Unfortunately, this is only the tip of the iceberg. These same FPL consultants have staged spoiler candidates in other races, set up fake grassroots groups and paid activists to promote FPL's interests. They even tried to convince a member of the Jacksonville City Council who didn't want to sell the city's utility company to FPL to take a new job they'd created so that he would resign.

This reporting has raised significant questions around the potential of ratepayer funds being used to not only influence elections but to undermine democracy through fake candidate schemes, astroturfing, and attempted bribes.

FPL ratepayers deserve to know whether the money they are forced to send the utility every month to pay their bills was used not only to influence elections, but also to undermine democracy through fake candidate schemes.

The question of ratepayer funds being improperly used is of national interest as well. In December 2021, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) to seek comment on the accounting treatment of utilities' trade association dues to protect electric and gas customers from paying for the

trade associations' political activities through their utility bills (Docket RM22-5-000). The most recent FPL rate case settlement approved by the FL PSC included approximately \$20 million in trade association dues to groups that routinely participate in political activity and lobbying.

We are requesting that the PSC immediately begin an in-depth and thorough audit of FPL's expenditures to determine whether ratepayer money was used, directly or indirectly, to finance any of the political influence schemes that the [Orlando Sentinel](#) and [Times-Union](#) have outlined. We request that the PSC undertake a review of applicable rules and appropriate regulatory policies related to ratepayer financing of FPL's political machine.

We agree that the PSC's mission "to facilitate the efficient provision of safe and reliable utility services at fair prices" is critical to the people of Florida. While FPL bills are going up, along with many other costs, as constituents continue to feel the financial impacts of COVID-19 and economic hardships, FPL's apparent intentional lack of transparency, along with potential corporate and political corruption has raised serious concerns around the state.

The PSC must do its duty to protect Floridians from unjustified cost increases due to unethical corporate behavior from our regulated monopolies. Over 11 million Floridians are captive customers, with no choice but to pay FPL every month. It is imperative that we have the assurance that these customers are not being taken advantage of by their regulated monopolies.

We the undersigned strongly urge you to act in the best interest of all Floridians and address the concerns and lack of transparency outlined above.

Sincerely,



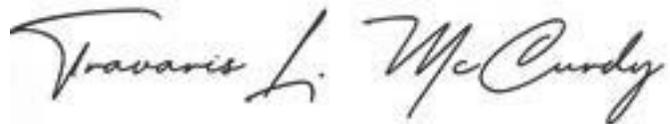
Representative Angie Nixon
Florida House of Representatives, District 14



Representative Anna V. Eskamani
Florida House of Representatives, District 47



Representative Carlos Guillermo Smith
Florida House of Representatives, District 49



Representative Travaris L. McCurdy
Florida House of Representatives, District 46