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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20230019-EI

Petition for recovery of costs
associated with named tropical
systems during the 2019-2022 hurricane
seasons and replenishment of storm
reserve, by Tampa Electric Company.

_____ /

PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA
ITEM NO. 4

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
112 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Commissioners, we
3 will next be moving on to Item No. 4. We will give
4 Ms. Gatlin a minute to get set up here.

5 All right. Ms. Gatlin, when you are ready,
6 you are recognized.

7 MS. GATLIN: Good morning, Commissioners. I
8 am Cassie Gatlin with Commission staff.

9 Item 4 is staff's recommendation on Tampa
10 Electric Company's request for approval to
11 implement an interim storm restoration recovery
12 charge.

13 On January 23rd, 2023, TECO filed a petition
14 for a limited proceeding seeking authority to
15 implement an interim storm restoration recovery
16 charge to recover an estimated \$131 million for
17 incremental storm restoration costs related to
18 Hurricanes Dorian, Elsa, Ian and Nicole and
19 Tropical Storms Alberta, Nestor and Eta, as well as
20 to replenishing its storm reserve.

21 The approval of an interim storm restoration
22 recovery charge is preliminary in nature and is
23 subject to refund pending a further review once the
24 total actual storm restoration costs are known
25 based on review of the information provided by

1 TECO.

2 In its petition, staff recommends the
3 Commission authorize TECO to implement the interim
4 storm restoration recovery charge subject to
5 refunds. Once the total actual storm costs are
6 known, TECO should be required to file
7 documentation of the storm cost for Commission
8 review.

9 The Office of Public Counsel and Walmart have
10 intervened in this docket. I would note, while
11 Walmart filed a petition to intervene yesterday,
12 they are not yet officially recognized as
13 intervenors. Representatives from TECO are in
14 attendance, and staff is available to answer any
15 questions.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you for that
18 summary, Ms. Gatlin.

19 (Whereupon, remarks by Charles Rehwinkel, on
20 behalf of the Office of Public Counsel, were inserted
21 into the record as follows:)

22 MR. REHWINKEL: Thank you again for allowing
23 me to present one time. I am presenting for the
24 FPL, Duke and Tampa Electric petitions for storm
25 cost recovery. We have intervened in all three

1 cases, and we have served significant discovery in
2 each of these three dockets.

3 The Public Counsel has been a party to the
4 development and implementation of the storm cost
5 recovery mechanism that is being applied here, and
6 we support it because it is interim in nature and
7 provides a true-up and final hearing opportunity
8 for the customers.

9 As I mentioned, we have served comprehensive
10 discovery to all three companies, but we have asked
11 the companies to hold off on responding, and I
12 would like to explain why.

13 In 2019, I think it was, the companies and the
14 customers, including the Public Counsel, entered
15 into a series of stipulations that were designed to
16 codify or implement practices, improvements to
17 practices and/or lessons learned from the 2017
18 Hurricane Irma experience, which caused nearly \$2
19 billion in damages to these IOUs. You approved
20 these stipulations and we think they have benefited
21 the customers and the companies.

22 In those stipulations, all three companies
23 agreed to conduct an independent audit of their
24 implementation of these process improvement
25 provisions in the next major storm restoration

1 recovery dockets. That storm is Ian, which was
2 similar to Irma in the scope and overall dollar
3 cost. It certainly exceeded the threshold for
4 conducting the audit, so we are at that point now.

5 Accordingly, we have agreed to let the
6 independent audit process play out as intended, and
7 we have asked the utilities to pause the process of
8 responding to the extensive discovery we served
9 until after the completion of the independent
10 audit. We did this in the hope and the belief that
11 a robust independent audit with well-designed
12 fieldwork, testing and sampling, and -- will
13 demonstrate significant compliance and improvement
14 such that we can eliminate or substantially cut
15 back on the discovery we served.

16 This was the intended goal when the process
17 was undertaken and the stipulations were entered.
18 We will reevaluate the scope of the discovery at
19 the conclusion of the audit, and we commit to the
20 Commission and the companies that we will work with
21 them on what, if any, discovery will be required
22 post audit.

23 The Public Counsel will continue to be deeply
24 engaged in this case, and we look forward to the
25 independent audit results while we hold discovery

1 in abeyance.

2 I thank you, Commissioners, and I am available
3 to answer questions.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Commissioners, with that, you
5 have a summary on Item No. 4. Both TECO and the
6 Office of Public Counsel are here and available if
7 you have questions about this item. And with that,
8 I will take any questions or comments for
9 discussion for Item No. 4.

10 Showing none, I will take a motion on Item No.
11 4.

12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Move staff
13 recommendation, Mr. Chairman.

14 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. We have a motion and a
16 second to move staff recommendation on Item 4.

17 All that support say aye.

18 (Chorus of ayes.)

19 CHAIRMAN FAY: Showing none opposed, Item 4
20 passes unanimously.

21 Thank you, Ms. Gatlin.

22 (Agenda item concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

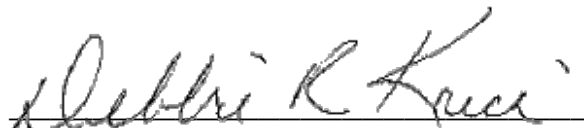
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 20th day of March, 2023.



DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024