September 30, 2014

VIA E-FILING

Carlotta S. Stauffer Director, Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket Nos. 130199-EI, 130200-EI, 130201-EI and 130202-EI

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

I have enclosed the Environmental Defense Fund's Post-hearing Statement and Brief to be filed in the above-referenced dockets. Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (513) 226-9558.

Very truly yours,

s/John Finnigan

John Finnigan Lead Counsel Clean Energy Program Environmental Defense Fund 128 Winding Brook Lane Cincinnati, Ohio 45174 (513) 226-9558 jfinnigan@edf.org

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re:	Commission Review of Numeric Conservation Goals Florida Power & Light Company)))	DOCKET NO. 130199-EI
In re:	Commission Review of Numeric Conservation Goals Duke Energy Florida, Inc.)))	DOCKET NO. 130200-EI
In re:	Commission Review of Numeric Conservation Goals Tampa Electric Company)) _)	DOCKET NO. 130201-EI
In re:	Commission Review of Numeric Conservation Goals Gulf Power Company)))	DOCKET NO. 130202-EI

POST-HEARING STATEMENT AND BRIEF OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

Florida uses more electricity than many other states in part because Florida has so many residential customers. Florida's hot summers cause high air conditioning loads and the large winter residential population causes high electricity use during the winter months. This makes conservation, load flexibility and self-generation very important for providing reliable, cost-effective electricity service to Florida's residents.

In 2008, the Legislature recognized the importance of conservation and renewable energy as a demand-side resource in an amendment to the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act ("FEECA")¹. The amendment directed the Commission to include goals "to encourage development of demand-side renewable energy resources."² The 2008 amendment also directed the Commission to consider the costs arising from state and federal regulations on greenhouse gas emissions in setting these goals.³

The Commission's most recent five-year goal setting process occurred in 2009. This was the first proceeding following the 2008 FEECA amendment which added renewable energy resources as a new demand-side energy resource. In the 2009 goal-setting case, the Commission found that distributed solar programs were not cost-effective but nevertheless ordered the utilities to spend ten percent of their conservation program expenditures on distributed solar programs as pilot programs.⁴ Now the Commission must decide whether to continue, modify or terminate these programs. The Environmental Defense Fund ("EDF") recommends that the Commission continue the distributed solar programs, with modifications discussed below.

The Commission should consider various policy objectives in evaluating these programs. The policy guidance includes the 2008 FEECA amendments noted above – to encourage development of demand-side renewable resources and to consider compliance costs for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Florida State Comprehensive Plan provides additional policy guidance – the Plan added a new policy objective in 2008 to increase development of renewable

¹ Section 366.80-366.85, 403.519 Florida Statutes.

² Section 366.82(2), Florida Statutes.

³ Section 366.82(3)(d), Florida Statutes.

⁴ See Order No. PSC-09-855-FOF-EG, in Docket Nos. 080407-EG, 080408-EG, 080409-EG, 080410-EG, 080411-EG, 080412-EG, and 080413-EG, *In re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals*.

energy resources.⁵ FEECA also requires that the Commission consider program costeffectiveness.

Federal policy guidance also favors using more renewable energy resources. Florida will need to reduce its emissions under the EPA's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, which was reinstated by a United States Supreme Court decision earlier this year.⁶ Florida will also need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel plants under the EPA's Clean Power Plan.⁷ The EPA is scheduled to finalize the Clean Power Plan rules by June 1, 2015 and states will be required to submit state plans implementing the standards in compliance with the guidelines by June 30, 2016.⁸ Importantly, the Clean Power Plan rules allow renewable energy resources to be used to comply with the plan's emission reductions targets.

Finally, the Commission should consider whether the distributed solar programs could assist Florida in taking actions to avoid the impacts of climate change and assist in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2050, as well as providing stability for customers by helping avoid energy supply disruptions and energy price increases.⁹

The utilities have opposed continuing the solar incentive program because they assert the programs were not cost-effective. None of the utilities, however, filed with the Commission any study or report on the operational impacts of distributed solar resources on their Florida service

⁵ Tr. 917-919 (Fine).

⁶ EPA v. EME Homer City Generation, L. P., 134 S. Ct. 1584, 188 L. Ed. 2d 775 (2014).

⁷ Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units, 79 Federal Register 117 (June 18, 2014) (amending 40 C.F.R. pt. 60).

⁸ Presidential Memorandum (June 25, 2013) (available at: <u>http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/25/presidential-memorandum-power-sector-carbon-pollution-standards</u>) (last viewed September 18, 2014).

⁹ Tr. 917 (Fine).

territories. On cross-examination, the utilities admitted that they did not do any such studies.¹⁰ Notably, the utilities are not considering significant, but admittedly difficult to calculate, benefits which are significant and will, in EDF's opinion, result in cost tests calculations that show benefits to significantly exceed costs. Yet, the utilities have not done the research that is essential for understanding how distributed solar resources impact their distribution systems and to correctly measure the benefits provided by distributed solar resources under actual operating conditions. Without this research, the utilities' cost/benefit studies are incomplete and thus not appropriately the basis for policymaking because they failed to measure the actual benefits provided by distributed solar resources.

Mr. Floyd gave the following testimony on cross-examination:

Q. * * * Does it sound reasonable for any company to consider studying the impacts of distributed solar on their system because of the different variables that have to be measured, because the local conditions may be different for each utility, and because distributed generation is coming down in price and starting to proliferate more?

A. That seems like a reasonable thing to pursue.¹¹

Mr. Duff testified that, if the distributed solar programs are continued, the programs should be designed to "provide opportunities to gather and analyze meaningful data and information regarding solar deployment."¹²

Mr. Koch testified that he is aware of solar impact studies in other states but he said there

is a need for studies about the operational impacts of distributed solar resources in the Florida utilities' service territories. Mr. Koch testified as follows:

¹⁰ Tr. 637-638 (Duff); Tr. 877 (Floyd).

¹¹ Tr. 879-880 (Floyd).

¹² Tr. 531 (Duff).

Q. And I accept your statement that you did not personally investigate whether any such studies are underway in other states, but did you receive any information that other studies are underway in other states?

A. I understand that there's other studies underway in other states. There's also -- because of the experiences they're having, the issue here is that those lessons or that information may or may not be directly applicable to FPL's network. And so the information, the idea of the R&D project is to gain Florida-specific information as far as those impacts are concerned on the network as we're configured here.¹³

Clearly, the lack of studies under actual operating conditions in Florida has caused utilities to under-value the benefits from distributed solar resources and thus to oppose continuing the solar incentive program. For example, Mr. Floyd testified that the distributed solar programs only provide benefits to non-participants in the form of lower fuel costs.¹⁴ To the contrary, distributed solar resources provide much more extensive benefits to non-participants. Dr. Fine sponsored a meta-analysis study entitled *A Review of Solar PV Benefit and Cost Studies* by the Rocky Mountain Institute ("RMI")¹⁵ and a Value of Solar Study by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.¹⁶ These studies were critically reviewed by expert practitioners in the field, and showed that distributed solar resources provide extensive benefits to non-participants.

The RMI meta-analysis study reviewed 16 distributed solar cost/benefit studies performed around the country by utilities, national research laboratories and other organizations. The study showed that distributed solar resources provide benefits to non-participants in the following areas:

ENERGY

¹³ Tr. 1331-1332 (Koch).

¹⁴ Tr. 894 (Floyd).

¹⁵ Exhibit 64.

¹⁶ Exhibit 65.

- energy
- system losses
- CAPACITY
 - generation capacity
 - transmission & distribution capacity
 - installed capacity

GRID SUPPORT SERVICES

- reactive supply & voltage control
- regulation & frequency response
- energy & generator imbalance
- synchronized & supplemental operating reserves
- scheduling, forecasting, and system control & dispatch
- FINANCIAL RISK
 - fuel price hedge
 - market price response

SECURITY RISK

• reliability & resilience

ENVIRONMENTAL

- carbon emissions (CO2)
- criteria air pollutants (SO2, NOx, PM)
- water
- land

SOCIAL

• economic development (jobs and tax revenues)

If the utilities would perform studies of the actual operating conditions of distributed solar resources in their Florida service territories, then they could observe and measure these categories of benefits which distributed solar provides to non-participants. This type of study would show whether distributed solar resources are actually cost-effective because it would measure all of the benefits to non-participants and would also measure how these resources perform under actual operating conditions in Florida.

Distributed solar resources should perform well here because Florida has abundant sunshine throughout the year. But Florida has not had a great deal of solar penetration and one obstacle has been the utilities failure to credit distributed solar resources with the full range of benefits they provide to non-participants. One avenue to redress this underutilization is a properly designed solar incentive program that credits distributed solar resources with the full range of benefits they provide to non-participants. The cost/benefit analyses submitted by the

utilities in this case are inadequate to measure cost-effectiveness because the utilities failed to do

these studies under actual operating conditions in Florida and failed to evaluate the full range of

non-participant benefits.

In rebuttal testimony, FP&L proposed that the Commission continue the distributed solar

programs, but modify the programs to conduct a solar research study to elicit this type of

information. Mr. Koch testified as follows:

Q. Dr. Sim's rebuttal testimony recommends that the current solar PV pilot programs be discontinued because they are not cost effective and concludes that the money currently spent on those programs could be used more productively to conduct a limited Solar R&D project that would gather information on the system impacts of both DSM and non-DSM PV applications. Please describe FPL's Solar R&D proposal.

A As Dr. Sim notes, SACE, Sierra Club and Environmental Defense Fund all recommend that further evaluation is needed to determine the costs and benefits of DSM PV. FPL believes that the cost and benefits of solar (or any resource option for that matter) are best assessed and considered in the context of a particular proposal for a resource option, rather than in an abstract or generic proceeding. It is clear without the benefit of any incremental research that the installed cost of utility scale PV is significantly lower than rooftop solar. However, FPL does agree that there is some merit to better understanding system impacts of different forms of solar. To this end, FPL proposes to continue and expand an initiative to gather data from a range of PV installations across the spectrum of applications and located throughout FPL's service territory, which would be metered and instrumented to gather information on issues such as the following:

• impacts of PV installations on the transmission and distribution network based on the size of the PV installations, their location and loading conditions on the network;

• energy output characteristics of different PV installations based on factors such as location, size and configuration;

• differences in customer electric consumption patterns based on whether PV is located behind the customer's meter vs. gridconnected; and • effects of locational diversity for PV installations.¹⁷

EDF agrees with FP&L's recommendation that additional research is urgently needed. In addition to the value attributes listed by Mr. Koch, EDF recommends that further study include examination of the full set of potential benefits and costs identified in the RMI meta-study. The Commission should appoint an independent expert to oversee the study. This will ensure that the full range of benefits is captured and that the valuation methodology provides an apples-toapples basis for comparison and is consistent with best practices used in other states.

Distributed solar photo-voltaic ("PV") is a very promising technology for Florida utility customers and it would be consistent with state policy to continue developing this important resource. Costs for distributed solar resources are rapidly declining, and further cost declines are likely. The costs for installing distributed solar programs decreased during the time the program was in effect, as shown below (costs are per-watt)¹⁸:

<u>Company</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2013</u>
FP&L (residential)	\$5.40	\$4.10
Duke (residential)	\$6.31	\$5.19
TECO (commercial)	\$5.50	\$3.42
Gulf Power (commercial	\$5.54	\$3.42

Table: Costs for Distributed Solar Installations

Moreover, Duke witness Mr. Duff sponsored a report on average residential and nonresidential installed prices of solar photo-voltaic ("PV") systems by state for the fourth quarter of 2013. This report shows that the leading state for the lowest cost for residential solar PV systems

¹⁷ Tr. 1296-1297 (Koch).

¹⁸ Tr. 929 (Fine).

is Wisconsin, with an installed cost under \$3.00/watt.¹⁹ In this case, the lowest cost for residential solar PV systems is FP&L's installed cost of \$4.10/watt. Mr. Duff's report demonstrates that much lower costs should be available quickly in Florida as Florida solar developers gain scale.

The following state public utility commissions are in various stages of performing studies

to measure the full benefits of distributed solar resources: Arizona,²⁰ Minnesota,²¹ Nevada,²²

California,²³ South Carolina,²⁴ Utah²⁵ and New York.²⁶

Florida would be well-served if the Commission continues the distributed solar programs,

while also modifying the programs to add a research component to determine the full range of

²¹ Exhibit 65.

²² Nevada Net Energy Metering Impacts Evaluation, Energy + Environmental Economics (July 2014), filed in Investigation to Examine the Costs and Benefits of Net Metering in Nevada Pursuant to Section 26.5 of Assembly Bill 428, Docket No. 13-07010, available at

http://pucweb1.state.nv.us/PDF/AxImages/DOCKETS_2010_THRU_PRESENT/2013-7/39428.pdf and see also Addendum filed September 9, 2014, available at http://pucweb1.state.nv.us/PDF/AxImages/DOCKETS_2010_THRU_PRESENT/2013-7/41069.pdf

(last viewed September 20, 2014).

²³ Technical Potential for Local Distributed Photovoltaics in California, Energy + Environmental Economics (March 2012), available at <u>http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8A822C08-A56C-4674-A5D2-099E48B41160/0/LDPVPotentialReportMarch2012.pdf</u> (last viewed September 20, 2014).

²⁴ South Carolina Code, Act 236, Section 58-27-1050 (June 16, 2014) (emphasis added), available at: <u>http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess120_2013-2014/bills/1189.htm</u> (last viewed August 21, 2014).

²⁵ In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Authority to Increase its Retail Electric Utility Service Rates in Utah and for Approval of its Proposed Electric Service Schedules and Electric Service Regulations, Docket No. 13-035-184 (Report and Order) (August 29, 2014), available at:

http://www.psc.utah.gov/utilities/electric/elecindx/2013/documents/26006513035184rao.pdf (last viewed September 30, 2014).

²⁶ Proceeding on Motion of the Commission in Regard to Reforming Energy Vision, Case No. 14-M-0101 (Order Instituting Proceeding (April 25, 2014).

¹⁹ Exhibit 43.

²⁰ In the Matter of Arizona Public Service Company's Application for Approval of Net Metering Cost Shift Soluiton, Docket No. E-01345A-13-0248 (Opinion & Order) (December 3, 2013).

costs and benefits under actual operating conditions in the utilities' Florida service territories. These studies should be forward looking, considering both costs and benefits in the near-term, five-year goal setting timeframe, and in the longer term of a decade and beyond. This would be consistent with Florida's policy objectives to encourage renewable energy development and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over decadal times. The utilities acknowledge the need for this research and FP&L recommends that the Commission approve a research study. Several other states have completed or are beginning such studies. An independent expert, selected by the Commission, should supervise the study. This would allow the Commission to obtain a true reading of the benefits of distributed solar resources for non-participants. The research would also be valuable because it could inform utilities' integrated resource planning and their distribution system planning.

Statement of Basic Position

EDF: * The Commission should order: continuation of the distributed solar programs at the same or greater funding level; a comprehensive independently-supervised study of distributed solar benefits and costs; and incentive redesign to enhance program cost-effectiveness, increased customer participation, and greater deployment of distributed solar.*

Issues and Positions

<u>Issue #11 – Should the Company's existing Solar Pilot Programs be extended and, if so, should any modifications be made to them?</u>

EDF: *Yes. The Commission should order: continuation of the distributed solar programs at the same or greater funding level; a comprehensive independently-supervised study of distributed solar benefits and costs; and incentive redesign to enhance program cost-effectiveness, increased customer participation, and greater deployment of distributed solar.*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of September, 2014

s/John Finnigan

John Finnigan Lead Counsel Clean Energy Program Environmental Defense Fund 128 Winding Brook Lane Cincinnati, Ohio 45174 (513) 226-9558 jfinnigan@edf.org

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy and correct copy of the foregoing was served on this 30th day of September, 2014, via electronic mail on:

Charles Murphy Lee Eng Tan Florida Public Service Commission Office of the General Counsel 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 Itan@psc.state.fl.us

Steven L. Hall Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of General Counsel 407 South Calhoun St., Suite 520 Tallahassee, FL 32399 Phone: 850-245-1000 FAX: 850-245-1001 Steven.Hall@FreshFromFlorida.com

Ken Hoffman Florida Power & Light Company 215 S. Monroe Street, Suite 810 Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1858 Phone: (850) 521-3900 FAX: (850) 521-3939 ken.hoffman@fpl.com Erik Sayler Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400 sayler.erik@leg.state.fl.us

Kevin Donaldson Florida Power & Light Company 4200 West Flagler Street Miami, FL 33134 Phone: (305) 442-5071 FAX: (305) 442-5435 kevin.donaldson@fpl.com

Paul Lewis, Jr. John Burnett Diane Triplett Duke Energy 106 East College Avenue, Suite 800 Tallahassee, FL 32301-7740 Phone: (727) 820-5184 FAX: (727) 820-5041 john.burnett@duke-energy.com paul.lewisjr@duke-energy.com diane.triplett@duke-energy.com

Earthjustice Alisa Coe/David Guest/Jill Tauber 111 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: 850-681-0031 FAX: 681-0020 Email: <u>acoe@earthjustice.org</u> jtauber@earthjustice.org dguest@earthjustice.org

Gardner Law Firm Robert Scheffel Wright/John T. La Via, 1300 Thomaswood Drive Tallahassee, FL 32308 Phone: 850-385-0070 FAX: 850-385-5416 Email: schef@gbwlegal.com

PCS Phosphate - White Springs James W. Brew / F. Alvin Taylor c/o Brickfield Law Firm 1025 Thomas Jefferson St., NW, Eighth Washington, DC 20007-5201 Phone: (202) 342-0800 FAX: (202) 342-0807 Email: jbrew@bbrslaw.com

Sierra Club Diana Csank 50 F St. NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20001 Phone: (202) 548-4595 FAX: (202) 547-6009 Email: Diana.Csank@sierraclub.org

Wal-Mart Stores East, LP and Sam's East, Inc. Kenneth E. Baker Energy Department 2001 SE 10th St. Bentonville, AR 72716-0550 Phone: 479-204-0404 FAX: 479-273-6851 Ken.baker@walmart.com Florida Industrial Power Users Group Jon C. Moyle, Jr./Karen Putnal c/o Moyle Law Firm 118 North Gadsden Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: (850) 681-3828 FAX: 681-8788 Email: jmoyle@moylelaw.com

Florida Solar Energy Industries Association Colleen McCann Kettles, JD FL Phone: (321) 638-1004 Email: ckettles@fsec.ucf.edu

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy George Cavros 120 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Suite 105 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334 Phone: 954-295-5714 FAX: 866-924-2824 George@cavros-law.com

Ausley Law Firm (13d) J. Beasley/J. Wahlen/A. Daniels Post Office Box 391 Tallahassee, FL 32302 Phone: 850-224-9115 FAX: (850) 222-7560 Email: jbeasley@ausley.com Beggs & Lane J. Stone/R. Badders/S. Griffin P.O. Box 12950 Pensacola, FL 32591-2950 Phone: 850-432-2451 FAX: 850-469-3331 Email: srg@beggslane.com

Gulf Power Company Robert L. McGee, Jr. One Energy Place Pensacola, FL 32520-0780 Phone: 850-444-6530 FAX: 850-444-6026 Email: rlmcgee@southernco.com

Keyes, Fox and Wiedman LLP Kevin Fox/Justin Barnes/Rusty Haynes 436 14th St., Ste. 1305 Oakland, CA 94612 Phone: (510) 314-8201 Email: kfox@kfwlaw.com Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance Abby Schwimmer FL Phone: 404-602-9665 Email: aschwimmer@seealliance.org

The Alliance for Solar Choice Anne Smart 595 Market St. 29th Floor San Francisco, CA 94105 Phone: (408) 728-7166 Email: anne@allianceforsolarchoice.com Florida Power & Light Company (Juno 13i) John Butler/Jessica Cano 700 Universe Blvd Juno Beach, FL 33408 Phone: (561) 304-5639 FAX: (561) 691-7135 Email: John.Butler@FPL.com

Hopping Law Firm Gary V. Perko P.O. Box 6526 Tallahassee, FL 32314 Email: Gperko@hgslaw.com

OPOWER

Alex Lopez FL Phone: (571) 483 3042 Email: alex.lopez@opower.com

Tampa Electric Company (13) Paula K. Brown, Manager Regulatory Coordination P.O. Box 111 Tampa, FL 33602 Phone: 813-228-1744 FAX: 813-228-1770 Email: pkbrown@tecoenergy.com

Mike Rogers P.O. Box 12552 Tallahassee, Florida 32317 mrogers@comcast.com

s/John Finnigan

John Finnigan