### **Brandy Butler**

From: Ellen Plendl

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Consumer Correspondence

Subject: Docket 201170215

**Attachments:** FW Message from KM\_C368; I-alan-westphal-response.pdf

See attached email and reply and add to the correspondence side of Docket 201170215.

#### **Brandy Butler**

From: Cimmino-Lynn, Martha <Martha.Cimmino-Lynn@eog.myflorida.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 2:20 PM

To: Ellen Plendl

**Subject:** FW: Message from KM\_C368

**Attachments:** 663704,westphal-outgoing.pdf; 663704,westphal.pdf

Please find attached correspondence received and responded to by the Governor's Office of Citizen Services. This correspondence is forwarded to your office for review and any response or action appropriate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martha Lynn
Office of Citizen Services

Executive Office of the Governor

From: cap1901BizhubC368@EOG.myflorida.com [mailto:cap1901BizhubC368@EOG.myflorida.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 1:33 PM

To: Cimmino-Lynn, Martha < <a href="mailto:Martha.Cimmino-Lynn@eog.myflorida.com">Martha.Cimmino-Lynn@eog.myflorida.com</a>>

Subject: Message from KM\_C368

Governor Rick Scott

The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399 - 0001

L. Alan Westphal

601 NE 38th Street

Pompano Beach, FL 33064

October 18, 2017

Dear Governor Rick Scott,

The hurricane that hit Puerto Rico has proven what I have been warning 'Florida Power and Light' about for years, is true. When a category 5 hurricane comes up the east coast of Florida, there will be no electrical power for up to a year! The small island of Puerto Rico is nothing, compared to the huge urban population and massive power grid on the east coast of Florida.

When I write to FPL, they respond by saying, "We are replacing wooden poles with reinforced concrete poles". "We cut vegetation near our lines during hurricane season". "Experts have examined the possibility of placing power lines underground and found it to be too expensive and unreliable". "The coating will degrade and the splices underground will leak and short out".

They can hire "Experts" to make those reports! It is not true. Here are the facts: Concrete poles will degrade in time and have limits to their strength. The wires will be all torn off. Replacing the wires would take too long among all the debris. The claim that the underground wires will degrade is laughing in the face of scientific fact. Even plastic soda bottles and ketchup bottles will last up to a 1000 years. The coating on underground electric wires is engineered to be much better than a soda bottle. The splices in electric wire should not done underground, where they could leak, but rather are to be brought above ground and spliced in a waterproof box. Easily serviced.

Yes, the cost to put the electrical grid underground will be expensive, but start now, instead of wasting money on concrete poles! Pick an area to start and put the system underground as money is available. Florida is a 'Time Bomb' waiting to explode! That category 5 hurricane will come! Don't let FPL's greed for profit keep you from mandating them to do the right thing. You are FPL's friend. Use your influence with them and your power as governor to protect Florida from this ticking time bomb.

You want to bring industry and economic investment to Florida. How much more attractive will Florida be to investors when they know it is safe from electrical destruction? Regardless how much damage the wind does to buildings, if the power can be restored quickly, or kept on, that is the major win. The people of Florida will praise you, every time a hurricane hits. Even these small ones cause terrific trauma. With the category 1 hurricanes, it would mean virtually no problem, except tree limbs.

Sincerely,

L. Alan Westphal

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663704 BUE:11.7.17



L. Alan Westphal 601 NE 38th St Pompano Beach FL 33064 MI FALM BUH
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Governor Rick Scott

The Capital 400 S. Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001



STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com 850-717-9418

October 27, 2017

Mr. L Alan Westphal 601 Northeast 38th Street Pompano Beach, Florida 33064

Dear Mr. Westphal:

Thank you for contacting Governor Rick Scott.

The Public Service Commission is an arm of the legislative branch of government and regulates certain public utilities in Florida. To assist you, I forwarded a copy of your letter to PSC for their review. If you want to contact PSC directly, please use the information provided below.

Thank you again for contacting Governor Scott.

Sincerely,

Martha Lynn

Office of Citizen Services

Martha Lynn

Executive Office of the Governor

ML/cas

cc: Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

(850) 413-6100

### STATE OF FLORIDA

COMMISSIONERS: JULIE I. BROWN, CHAIRMAN ART GRAHAM RONALD A. BRISÉ DONALD J. POLMANN GARY F. CLARK



OFFICE OF
CONSUMER ASSISTANCE & OUTREACH
CYNTHIA L. MUIR
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6482

## **Public Service Commission**

October 26, 2017

Mr. L. Alan Westphal 601 NE 38th Street Pompano Beach, FL 33064

RE: FPSC Inquiry Number 1259531C

Dear Mr. Westphal:

The Governor's office forwarded a copy of your email regarding Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) to the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC regulates investor-owned electric, and natural gas utilities throughout the state, and investor-owned water and wastewater utilities in those counties which have opted to transfer jurisdiction to the PSC. The PSC has authority in the telephone industry which is limited to the Lifeline Assistance Program, Florida Relay Service, and pay telephone service.

Hurricane Irma was a historic and catastrophic storm event. Due to this storm event and the vast numbers of persons impacted statewide, restoration of power statewide is of a historic magnitude not seen before in this state. We acknowledge the frustration resulting from this storm event. Power restoration is of the highest priority for the FPSC and the state of Florida. FPSC staff worked with all state agencies and with all utilities to make sure that power was fully restored to all people and areas of the state as quickly as humanly and technically possible.

In a recent press release, FPSC Chairman Julie Brown stated that because it is critical that customers receive safe, adequate, and reliable electric service, the FPSC already has in place several processes to review utility storm preparedness plans and to evaluate the impact of storms on electric infrastructure. One process is that prior to the start of the hurricane season, we hold annual public meetings with Florida's electric utilities to hear about new practices and technology to facilitate a discussion between utilities and the FPSC.

In addition, our rules require utilities to develop plans to address the ability of transmission and distribution facilities to withstand extreme weather conditions, and to reduce restoration costs and outage times to customers. We review these plans on a regular basis. The public should be aware that the FPSC plans to review Hurricane Irma's impacts on electric utility

Mr. L. Alan Westphal Page 2 October 26, 2017

infrastructure and the utilities' post-storm restoration performance as soon as reasonably feasible. As part of this proceeding, forensic data will be collected on the transmission and distribution facilities impacted by Hurricane Irma's winds, and the utilities tree trimming practices and pole inspection cycles will be analyzed.

After an intensive fact-based review, the FPSC will identify opportunities to improve utility practices and procedures.

We have forwarded your information to FPL and requested that they contact you regarding your concerns.

If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Plendl at 1-800-342-3552 or by fax at 1-800-511-0809.

Sincerely,

Randy Roland

Regulatory Program Administrator

Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach

RR:mep