

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by Tampa Electric Company
for a limited proceeding to approve Third
SoBRA effective January 1, 2020

DOCKET NO.: 20190136-EI

FILED: September 24, 2019

PREHEARING STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL

The Citizens of the State of Florida, through the Office of Public Counsel, pursuant to the Order Establishing Procedure in this docket, Order No. PSC-2019-0295-PCO-EI issued July 26, 2019, submit this Prehearing Statement.

APPEARANCES:

CHARLES J. REHWINKEL, Esquire
Deputy Public Counsel
Office of Public Counsel
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Room 812
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400
On behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida.

A. **WITNESSES:**

None

B. **EXHIBITS:**

None

C. STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION

Tampa Electric Company seeks approval of its third solar project for inclusion as a specific, discrete adjustment to base rates pursuant to the 2017 Settlement Agreement approved in Order No. PSC-2017-0456-S-EI. Paragraph 6 of the Settlement Agreement provides many criteria for

eligibility under the streamlined, limited proceeding base rate freeze exception provided therein. While the 2019 (or third SoBRA installment) appears to be consistent with the 2017 Settlement Agreement, there are aspects related to the Little Manatee River and Wimauma Projects that may need to be scrutinized in order to determine whether they meet the letter or intent of paragraph 6(b) of the agreement.

Citizens intend to conduct limited cross-examination at hearing intended to hold the Company to its burden to demonstrate compliance with the Settlement's terms. At this point, pending final review of discovery responses that have been provided in recent days the Citizens are unable to state that it has been conclusively demonstrated that Tampa Electric's burden has been met for all aspects of the 2019 (third) SoBRA.

D. STATEMENT OF FACTUAL ISSUES AND POSITIONS

ISSUE 1: Are the 2019 SoBRA projects proposed by TECO each eligible in their entirety for treatment pursuant to paragraph 6 of the 2017 Agreement?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 2: Are the 2020 SoBRA projects proposed by TECO cost effective pursuant to subparagraph 6(g) of the 2017 Agreement?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 3: Are the projected installed costs of each of TECO's 2020 SoBRA projects under the Installed Cost Cap pursuant to subparagraph 6(d) of the 2017 Agreement?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 4: What are the estimated annual revenue requirements associated with TECO's 2020 SoBRA projects?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 5: What are the appropriate base rates needed to collect the estimated annual revenue requirement for the solar projects in the third SoBRA?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 6: Should the Commission approve the tariffs for TECO reflecting the base rate increases for the 2020 projects determined to be appropriate in these proceedings?

OPC: No position at this time.

ISSUE 7: Should the docket be closed?

OPC: No.

E. STIPULATED ISSUES:

None.

F. PENDING MOTIONS:

None.

G. REQUESTS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Citizens have no pending requests for claims for confidentiality.

H. OBJECTIONS TO WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS AS AN EXPERT

OPC has no objections to any witness' qualifications as an expert in this proceeding.

I. REQUIREMENTS OF ORDER

There are no requirements of the Order Establishing Procedure with which the Office of Public Counsel cannot comply.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

JR Kelly
Public Counsel

/s/Charles J. Rehwinkel
Charles J. Rehwinkel
Deputy Public Counsel
Office of Public Counsel
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400
(850) 488-9330

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that a true and correct copy of the Office of Public Counsel's Prehearing Statement has been furnished by electronic mail on this 24th day of September, 2019, to the following:

James D. Beasley
J. Jeffrey Wahlen
Malcolm N. Means
Tampa Electric Company
Post Office Box 391
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
jbeasley@ausley.com
jwahlen@ausley.com
mmeans@ausley.com

The Florida Industrial Power Users Group
Jon C. Moyle, Jr.
Karen A. Putnal
Ian E. Waldick
Moyle Law Firm
The Perkins House
118 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
jmoyle@moylelaw.com
kputnal@moylelaw.com
iwaldick@moylelaw.com

Mark Sundback
Kenneth L. Wiseman
Sheppard Mullin Richter &
Hampton LLP
2099 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20006-6801
msundback@sheppardmullin.com
kwiseman@sheppardmullin.com

Federal Executive Agencies
Thomas Jernigan
AFLOA/JACL-ULFSC
139 Barnes Drive, Suite 1
Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403
thomas.jernigan.3@us.af.mil

Florida Retail Federation
Robert Scheffel Wright
Gardner, Bist, Bowden, Bush, Dee,
LaVia & Wright, P.A.
1300 Thomaswood Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308
schef@gbwlegal.com

Walter Trierweiler
Kurt Schrader
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
wtrierwe@psc.state.fl.us
kschrade@psc.state.fl.us

Tampa Electric Company
Ms. Paula Brown
Regulatory Affairs
P. O. Box 111
Tampa FL 33601-0111
regdept@tecoenergy.com

/s/Charles J. Rehwinkel

Charles J. Rehwinkel
Deputy Public Counsel