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FPL's Response to OPC's Second Set of Interrogatories Nos. 9-12

QUESTION:

Referring to the 2023-2025 SPP at page 26, please describe how the meter base adapter will "minimize" impact on customer as a part of the underground conversion process.

RESPONSE:

The meter base adapter allows FPL to convert the service from overhead to underground without affecting the interior connection in the meter can. In many municipalities, altering the connections in the meter can will require a permit, inspections, and could also lead to additional work requirements based on local codes, such as electric panel replacements that can be costly to the property owner. The meter base adapter helps avoid this consideration entirely.

QUESTION:

Are there circumstances where a customer would be expected to incur an out-of-pocket cost (apart from the tariffed charges applied to the FPL bill) as a result of the underground conversion process described in the next to last paragraph on page 26 of the 2023-2025 SPP? If the answer is yes, please describe these circumstances and indicate the range of costs a customer would likely incur?

RESPONSE:

No. Out-of-pocket costs are not expected as a result of the underground conversion process described on page 26 of FPL's 2023-2032 Storm Protection Plan. See also FPL's response to OPC Second Set of Interrogatories No. 9.

QUESTION:

How will the meter base adapter costs be treated in the SPPCRC process – if at all? If these costs will not be recovered in the SPPCRC, please indicate under what rate making mechanism and under what tariff they will be recovered?

RESPONSE:

Consistent with the 2020-2029 Storm Protection Plan approved by Commission Order No. PSC-2020-0293-AS-EI, the meter base adaptors costs are included as part of the Lateral Hardening Program under FPL's 2023-2032 Storm Protection Plan. As a result, the costs associated with the meter base adaptors are being and will be recovered through the Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause.

QUESTION:

Please state whether Commission Orders No. 18893 and PSC-1995-0131-FOF-EI (requiring customers to bear the cost of meter enclosures, including meter sockets and meter bases) have any bearing on the cost attribution (to or away from the customer) of the meter base adapter. Please explain your reasons why or why not these orders would apply.

RESPONSE:

See FPL's objections filed May 5, 2022. Subject to and without waiver of said objections, the meter base adaptors installed as part of FPL's 2023-2032 Storm Protection Plan Distribution Lateral Hardening Program are not part of the meter enclosure, meter socket, or meter base and, instead, are located on FPL's side of the system downstream from the meter. See the diagram provided in Attachment 1 to this response.

FPL also notes that the inclusion of the meter base adapter as part of the Distribution Lateral Hardening Program is unchanged from the FPL's 2020-2029 Storm Protection Plan approved by Commission Order No. PSC-2020-0293-AS-EI.

Junction Box Adapter

In order to connect your electric service to the new underground equipment, Florida Power & Light Company may need to retrofit your meter enclosure with a junction box.

