BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for rate increase by Florida : DOCK

Power & Light Company

DOCKET NO. 20250011-EI

.

Filed: April 2, 2025

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF WALMART INC.

Pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57 of the Florida Statutes and Rule 28-106.205 of the Florida Administrative Code, Walmart Inc. ("Walmart"), by its attorneys, respectfully petitions the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") for permission to intervene in the above-captioned. In support thereof, Walmart represents to the Commission:

- 1. Petitioner is Walmart, 2608 SE J Street, Bentonville, AR 72716.
- 2. The name and address of Petitioner's attorneys are:

Stephanie U. Eaton Florida Bar No.: 165610 SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE, PLLC 110 Oakwood Drive, Suite 500 Winston-Salem, NC 27103 Phone: (336) 631-1062

Fax: (336) 725-4476 seaton@spilmanlaw.com

Steven W. Lee (as Qualified Representative) SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE, PLLC 1100 Bent Creek Boulevard, Suite 101 Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Phone: (717) 791-2012 Fax: (717) 795-2743 slee@spilmanlaw.com Ms. Eaton is authorized to accept service of papers in this proceeding on behalf of Walmart. Further, Walmart filed a Request that Mr. Lee be admitted as a Qualified Representative for Walmart on April 2, 2025. Walmart also requests that Mr. Lee also be added to the service list.

- 3. On February 28, 2025, Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL" or "Company") filed a Petition for Base Rate Increase and Rate Unification ("Petition"). In the Petition, FPL is requesting a general base rate increase of \$1.545 billion to be effective January 1, 2026, and an additional increase of \$927 million to be effective January 1, 2027. FPL is also seeking approval of a Solar and Battery Base Rate Adjustment ("SoBRA") mechanism that allows the Company to recover costs associated with the installation and operation of solar generation and battery storage facilities in 2028 and 2029. In total, FPL is requesting a base rate increase of \$2.472 billion. FPL is also requesting approval of a return on equity ("ROE") of 11.90 percent.
- 4. Walmart is a national retailer of goods and services through the United States with its principal office located at 2608 SE J Street, Bentonville, AR 72716.
- 5. <u>Statement of Substantial Interest</u>. Walmart has the privilege of providing its retail services in the State of Florida through its 232 Supercenters, 9 Discount Stores, 98 Neighborhood Markets, 46 Sam's Clubs, 2 Pharmacy Formats, 2 Fulfillment Centers, and 9 Distribution Centers. Walmart is also a large retail customer of the Company. Walmart has approximately 179 retail units, four distribution centers, and related facilities served by the Company. Collectively, these facilities consume more than 799 million kWh of electricity annually.
- 6. The cost of electric utility service is a significant element in the cost of operation for Walmart at multiple locations throughout the state, which could be impacted by the outcome in this case, thus Walmart has a unique and substantial interest in this matter.

2

.

¹ https://corporate.walmart.com/about/location-facts/united-states/florida

- 7. As a large customer with multiple accounts, Walmart has a substantial and vital interest in the outcome of this proceeding that cannot be adequately represented by any other party.
- 8. <u>Statement of Affected Interests.</u> In the above-referenced proceeding, the Commission will consider whether to approve the FPL's Petition. The Commission's decision will affect the Company and its customers, including Walmart, in the following ways. If approved, the Petition will increase the Company's base rates by \$1.545 billion effective January 1, 2026, and by \$927 million effective January 1, 2027. In addition, the Company has requested an ROE of 11.90 percent.
- 9. As a large electric consumer with multiple accounts served by FPL, Walmart will be substantially affected by the outcome of this proceeding. The Company's proposed rate increase will directly impact the cost of power supplied by FPL to Walmart's facilities located in the Company's territory, thereby affecting its operating costs.
- 10. <u>Statement of Position</u>. Walmart's position as a customer of FPL as set forth above provides it standing, and in light of the reasons set out in this Petition to Intervene, Walmart has an interest in ensuring that Commission approval of the Company's Petition will result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 11. <u>Disputed Issues of Material Fact</u>. At this time, Walmart has not identified disputed issues of material facts stated by the Company.
- 12. <u>Statement of Ultimate Facts Alleged and at Issue</u>. Ultimate facts alleged and at issue include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Whether Commission approval of the FPL's Petition and proposals will result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable; and

b. Whether Commission approval of the FPL's Petition in its entirety is in the public interest.

Walmart anticipates that other ultimate facts and issues may arise during the course of these proceedings.

- 13. <u>Rules and Statutes Justifying Relief</u>. As set forth herein, Walmart is entitled to intervene in this Docket. The rules and statues that entitle Walmart to intervene and participate in this case include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Section 120.569 of the Florida Statutes;
 - b. Section 120.57 of the Florida Statutes;
 - c. Section 25-22.039 of the Florida Administrative Code;
 - d. Section 28-106.201 of the Florida Administrative Code; and
 - e. Section 28-106.205 of the Florida Administrative Code.
- 14. <u>Requested Relief.</u> Walmart requests that it be permitted to intervene as a full party in this proceeding in light of its interests in this case, which as set forth above establish that Walmart is a large, multi-account customer of the Company.
- 15. Pursuant to Rule 28-106.204(3) F.A.C., Walmart conferred with the parties regarding Walmart's intervention. No party has indicated an objection to Walmart's intervention.²

4

² FPL; Office of Public Counsel; Florida Industrial Power Users Group; League of United Latin American Citizens of Florida; Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida, Inc.; Florida Rising, Inc.; Southern Alliance for Clean Energy; Federal Executive Agencies; and EVgo Services, LLC, have indicated that they do not object or take no position to Walmart's intervention.

WHEREFORE, Walmart Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Petition to Intervene and be provided with full party status in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Stephanie U. Eaton

Stephanie U. Eaton (FL State Bar No. 165610) SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE, PLLC 110 Oakwood Drive, Suite 500 Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Phone: (336) 631-1062 Fax: (336) 725-4476 seaton@spilmanlaw.com

Steven W. Lee (*Pending Qual.fied Representative*) SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE, PLLC 1100 Bent Creek Boulevard, Suite 101 Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Phone: (717) 791-2012 Fax: (717) 795-2743 slee@spilmanlaw.com

Counsel to Walmart Inc.

Dated: April 2, 2025

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by

electronic mail to the following parties this 2nd day of April, 2025.

John T. Burnett
Maria Jose Moncada
Christopher T. Wright
Florida Power & Light Company
700 Universe Boulevard
Juno Beach, FL 33408-0420
John.t.burnett@fpl.com
Maria.moncada@fpl.com
Christopher.wright@fpl.com

Kenneth A. Hoffman Florida Power & Light Company 134 West Jefferson Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 Ken.hoffman@fpl.com

Shaw Stiller
Timothy Sparks
Office of General Counsel
Florida Public Service Commission
Room 390L – Gerald L. Gunter Building
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
sstiller@psc.state.fl.us
tsparks@psc.state.fl.us

Walt Trierweiler
Mary A. Wessling
Office of Public Counsel
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Suite 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400
trierweiler.walt@leg.state.fl.us
wesling.mary@leg.state.fl.us

Jon C. Moyle, Jr.
Karen A. Putnal
Moyle Law Finn, P.A.
118 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
jmoyle@moylelaw.com
kputnal@moylelaw.com
mqualls@moylelaw.com

Bradley Marshall
Jordan Luebkemann
Earthjustice
111 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
bmarshall@earthjustice.org
jluebkemann@earthjustice.org
flcaseupdates@earthjustice.org

William C. Garner Law Office of William C. Garver, PLLC 3425 Bannerman Road Unit 105, No. 414 Tallahassee, FL 32312 bgarner@wcglawoffice.com Certificate of Service Docket No. 20250011-EI Page 2

Leslie R. Newton, Maj, USAF
Ashley N. George, Capt, USAF
Thomas A. Jernigan
Michael A. Rivera
James B. Ely
Ebony M. Payton
Federal Executive Agencies
139 Barnes Drive, Suite 1
Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403
Leslie.newton.1@us.af.mil
Ashley.george.4@us.af.mil
Thomas.jernigan.3@us.af.mil
Michael.rivera.51@us.af.mil
James.ely@us.af.mil
Ebony.payton.ctr@us.af.mil

Nikhil Vijaykar Keyes & Fox LLP 580 California St., 12th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104 nvijaykar@keyesfox.com

Katelyn Lee Lindsey Stegall EVgo Services, LLC 1661 E. Franklin Ave. El Segundo, CA 90245 Katelyn.lee@evgo.com Lindsey.Stegall@evgo.com James W. Brew
Laura Wynn Baker
Joseph R. Briscar
Sarah B. Newman
Stone Mattheis Xenopoulos & Brew, PC
1025 Thomas Jefferson St, NW
Suite 800 West
Washington, D.C. 20007
jbrew@smxblaw.com
lwb@smxblaw.com
jrb@smxblaw.com
sbn@smxblaw.com

Stephen Bright
Jigar J. Shah
Electrify America, LLC
1950 Opportunity Way, Suite 1500
Reston, VA 20190
Steve.Bright@electrifyamerica.com
Jigar.shah@electrifyamerica.com

Robert E. Montejo Duane Morris LLP 201 S. Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 3400 Miami, FL 33131-4325 REMontejo@duanemorris.com

/s/ Stephanie U. Eaton

Stephanie U. Eaton