

### **NEWS BRIEFS**

# **Commissioners Tour Cane Island Power Park**

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE





On different days in March, **FPSC Commissioners visited** Cane Island Power Park to tour the facility, discuss industry challenges and learn how the Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA) and its members work diligently to provide affordable, reliable power. Commissioner Mike La Rosa and his Chief Advisor Ana Ortega visited on March 16, and Commissioner Clark and his Chief Advisor Amanda Marsh met with FMPA on March 31.

Cane Island Power Park in Intercession City, Florida, is part of Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA). An FMPA member, KUA owns, operates, and manages the municipal electric system established by the City of Kissimmee in 1901.

Compared to the other municipally-owned electric utilities, KUA is the sixth largest utility in Florida. KUA's 289 employees serve approximately 90,000 customers in Kissimmee and surrounding areas as of January 2022.



#### NEWS BRIEFS



In March, Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo was the guest on Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum podcast hosted by former Florida Public Service Commissioner Lila Jaber. Commissioner Passidomo discussed the path that lead her to a career in the energy field, and she provided tips for students considering this career path, ending with, "You will never be bored!"

Commissioner Passidomo also shared the importance of working with NARUC and having a seat on emerging energy issues at the federal level. She spoke of Florida's reputation as a national leader on storm resiliency, and the importance of helping educate and prepare Commissions around the country facing weather-related challenges.

You can see Commissioner Passidomo's full interview *here*.

Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum was launched to inform, inspire, and motivate diverse talent to join the energy workforce.

For more information visit: www.flwomeninenergy.com

# 2023 Legislative Session:

# **FPSC Takeaways**

Florida's 2023 Legislative Session ended on May 5. The FPSC's Legislative Affairs team monitored key bills, as well as the State of Florida's Budget for the next fiscal year, and Governor Ron DeSantis signed the following key bills into law.

## Below are FPSC Legislative takeaways:

HB 0125 Utility System Rate Case Values was approved by the legislature and sent to the Governor for signature. The legislation establishes an alternative procedure for the PSC to establish rate base value for acquiring water/wastewater utility systems. If it's signed into law, the PSC will adopt rules to comply. Effective July 1.

**HB 1221 Broadband Internet Service Providers** was approved by the legislature and sent to the Governor for signature. The legislation specifies that poles of rural electric cooperatives that provide broadband service are subject to PSC regulation and allows the PSC access to books and records for specific purposes. No rulemaking is necessary. Effective July 1.

SB 1312 Regulatory Assessment Fees was added to the 2023-2024 Implementing Bill and approved for one fiscal year. This language exempts the PSC from filing statements of estimated regulatory costs and from legislative ratification to align PSC requirements with those of other state agencies. Effective July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.

#### The State of Florida budget totaled \$116.5 billion.

Florida's reserves total \$10.9 billion, more than 9.32 percent of the total budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The FPSC budget was fully funded at \$28,903,778 and 272 positions, per the FPSC Legislative Budget Request.

Our Legislative Affairs team is gearing up for the 2024 Legislative Session, which will convene from January 9–March 8, and will continue to monitor any and all legislative actions affecting the FPSC and Florida.