ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Joint Petition for) Determination of Need for an) Electrical Power Plant in Volusia) County by the Utilities Commission,) City of New Smyrna Beach, Florida,) and Duke Energy New Smyrna Beach) Power Company Ltd., L.L.P.)

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DOCKET NO. 981042-EM FILED: OCTOBER 23, 1998

DUKE ENERGY NEW SMYRNA BEACH POWER COMPANY LTD., L.L.P.'S OBJECTIONS TO FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES (NOS. 1-37)

Duke Energy New Smyrna Beach Company Ltd., L.L.P. ("Duke New Smyrna") pursuant to the Order Establishing Procedures issued in this docket on September 4, 1998, hereby respectfully submits its objections to Florida Power & Light Company's ("FPL") First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-37) which were served on Duke New Smyrna on October 13, 1998.

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

Duke New Smyrna objects to FPL's First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-37) on the grounds set forth in paragraphs A and B below. Each of Duke New Smyrna's responses will be subject to and qualified by these general objections.

A. Duke New Smyrna objects to FPL's request that the answers to these interrogatories be provided on or before October 27, 1998. Rule 1.340, Florida Rule of Civil Procedure ("F.R.C.P.") which is made specifically applicable to this proceeding by Uniform Rule 28-106.206, Florida Administrative Code ("F.A.C."), requires that answers to interrogatories shall

1

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be served within 30 days of service of the interrogatories. However, in the spirit of compromise, Duke New Smyrna stated in its Response in Opposition to FPL's Motion to Expedite Discovery and Motion for Alternative Expedited Discovery Schedule, filed with the Commission on October 19, 1998, that it will agree to respond to FPL's discovery requests within 20 days of service.

B. As set forth more specifically below, Duke New Smyrna objects to those of FPL's interrogatories that ask for confidential, proprietary business information. Moreover, Duke New Smyrna does not have a form of confidentiality agreement, nor does Duke New Smyrna believe that it would be possible to fashion such an agreement, that would be satisfactory to protect Duke New Smyrna's interests in such information.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS

Duke New Smyrna makes the following specific objections to FPL's First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-37). Duke New Smyrna's specific objections are numbered to correspond with the numbers of FPL's interrogatories.

12. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information. In addition, because the Project is a merchant plant which poses no economic risk to Florida's ratepayers, the sources of the internal funds that Duke New Smyrna will use to finance the Project are irrelevant and immaterial to this proceeding and therefore, discovery regarding those sources is not calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

2

21. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information, at least as to projected power sales prices and power purchase costs. Duke New Smyrna will attempt to answer this interrogatory to the extent possible with non-confidential, non-proprietary information.

23. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information. Duke New Smyrna will attempt to answer this interrogatory to the extent possible with non-confidential, nonproprietary information.

25. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is vague. Pursuant to the Order Establishing Procedure in this proceeding, Duke New Smyrna requests clarification of this request.

28. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information. In addition, the interrogatory seeks information that is irrelevant, immaterial and not calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

30. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information. Duke New Smyrna will attempt to answer this interrogatory to the extent possible with non-confidential, nonproprietary information.

33. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the

3

ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information. Duke New Smyrna will attempt to answer this interrogatory to the extent possible with non-confidential, nonproprietary information.

37. Duke New Smyrna objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks confidential, proprietary business information.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of October, 1998.

Robert Scheffel Wright

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and

Duke Energy New Smyrna Beach Power Company Ltd., L.L.P.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 981042-EM

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served by hand delivery (*) or by United States Mail, postage prepaid, on the following individuals this <u>23rd</u> day of October, 1998:

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