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COMMISSION

Rep. Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda Florida House of Representatives District 9

August 26, 2010

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Commissioner Lisa Polak Edgar Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dear Commissioner Polak Edgar:

I am writing to urge you and the rest of the Public Service Commission members to deny the requests from Florida Power & Light and Progress Energy to make advance collections for proposed nuclear plants. FP&L is requesting \$3.96 dollars from customers in 2011, while Progress Energy wants consumers to part with \$66.36 in the coming year. This is not the time for the utility companies to be collecting advance payments from consumers who may never have the use of the power generated from the plants, if they are ever built. I urge you and the other PSC commissioners to consider the serious negative impacts nuclear plants bring to our state.

Nuclear plant construction is *the* most costly type of energy construction worldwide. It is also the most lengthy – generally taking an average of 10-12 years for construction to production. Subsidizing FP&L and Progress Energy's nuclear plants construction on the backs of Floridians guarantees neither our future energy independence nor our safety and I urge you not to grant these companies the authority to collect the advance payments they seek.

You should also know nuclear energy is neither renewable nor clean. The PSC, through its previous approval of Progress Energy's increase, has in fact put its stamp of approval on a single and alarming route to addressing Florida's energy future. If truly clean, truly renewable, and truly safe energy projects had the same cost recovery deal that Progress Energy has crafted with the approval of the PSC, our economy, environment, national security and our citizens would be much better served. Our citizens deserve more than a single, extremely costly, and potentially dangerous approach to providing for future energy needs.

Nuclear production, transportation across state lines, and permanent disposal are fraught with potential legal liability and risks to our national security. Even with the ability to recycle some of the waste, dangerous waste will remain for thousands of years. Scientists have been working on this problem for decades, but we have still not solved it and it is unfair and unjust to pawn yet another problem off onto the next generation of Floridians.

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I appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns and your review of my letter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rehaukel Dastinda 1

Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda Representative, District 09

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Florida House of Representatives Representative Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda, District 9 1001 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

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