

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals (Florida Power & Light Company).

DOCKET NO. 130199-EI

In re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals (Duke Energy Florida, Inc.).

DOCKET NO. 130200-EI

In re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals (Tampa Electric Company).

DOCKET NO. 130201-EI

In re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals (Gulf Power Company).

DOCKET NO. 130202-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-14-0098-PCO-EI
ISSUED: February 7, 2014

ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION

Section 366.82, Florida Statutes (F.S.), part of the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA), requires the Commission to adopt goals to increase the efficiency of energy consumption, increase the development of demand-side renewable energy systems, reduce and control the growth rates of electric consumption and weather-sensitive peak demand, and encourage development of demand-side renewable energy resources. Pursuant to Section 366.82(6), F.S., the Commission must review a utility's conservation goals no less than every five years. The FEECA statutes are implemented by Rules 25-17.001 and 25-17.0021, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). By the Order Establishing Procedure, Order No. PSC-13-0386-PCO-EU, issued August 19, 2013, Docket Nos. 130199-EI, 130200-EI, 130201-EI, 130202-EI, 130203-EM, and 130204-EM were consolidated for purposes of hearing and controlling dates were established. The Order Establishing Procedure scheduled a formal administrative hearing on July 21- 25, 2014.

Petition for Intervention

By petition, dated December 31, 2013, Florida Industrial Power Users Group has requested permission to intervene in this proceeding. FIPUG is an ad hoc association consisting of industrial users of electricity in Florida. FIPUG states that the cost of electricity constitutes a significant portion of its members' over all costs of production. FIPUG asserts that its members require adequate, reasonably-priced electricity in order to compete in their respective markets.

FIPUG states that, in this proceeding, the Commission will set numeric goals for the FEECA Utilities for conservation and energy efficiency measures. The costs of such programs will be funded by Florida ratepayers, which includes FIPUG members. FIPUG contends that the substantial interests of its members, to ensure that the rates the members pay are just and reasonable, will be directly affected by the Commission's decisions in this proceeding. No party has filed an objection to FIPUG's Petition, and the time for doing so has expired.

Standard for Intervention as an Association

Pursuant to Rule 25-22.039, F.A.C., persons, other than the original parties to a pending proceeding, who have a substantial interest in the proceeding, and who desire to become parties may petition for leave to intervene. Petitions for leave to intervene must be filed at least five days before the evidentiary hearing, must conform with Rule 28-106.201(2), F.A.C., and must include allegations sufficient to demonstrate that the intervenor is entitled to participate in the proceeding as a matter of constitutional or statutory right or pursuant to Commission rule, or that the substantial interests of the intervenor are subject to determination or will be affected by the proceeding. Intervenors take the case as they find it.

To have associational standing, the intervenor must satisfy the test for associational standing set forth in Florida Home Builders v. Dept. of Labor and Employment Security, 412 So. 2d 351 (Fla. 1982), and extended to Section 120.57(1), F.S., hearings by Farmworker Rights Organization, Inc. v. Dept. of Health and Rehabilitative Services, 417 So. 2d 753 (Fla. 1st DCA 1982). Associational standing may be found where: (1) the association demonstrates that a substantial number of an association's members may be substantially affected by the Commission's decision in a docket; (2) the subject matter of the proceeding is within the association's general scope of interest and activity; and (3) the relief requested is of a type appropriate for the association to receive on behalf of its members. Florida Home Builders at 353.

Analysis & Ruling

It appears that FIPUG satisfies the three-prong associational standing test established in Florida Home Builders. With respect to the first prong of the Florida Home Builders associational standing test, FIPUG asserts that it is an ad hoc association consisting of industrial users of electricity in Florida and that its members' substantial interests will be directly affected by the Commission's decisions on the appropriate conservation goals and programs. FIPUG contends that its members will be directly affected by the Commission's decisions in this proceeding due to the impact on electric rates. With respect to the second prong of the associational standing test, the subject matter of the proceeding appears to be within FIPUG's general scope of interest and activity because FIPUG represents industrial users of electricity and their concerns. As for the third prong of the associational standing test, FIPUG is seeking intervention in this docket in order to represent the interests of its members in this proceeding. Based on the foregoing analysis, FIPUG's standing in this proceeding has been established. Pursuant to Rule 25-22.039, F.A.C., FIPUG takes the case as it finds it.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Chairman Ronald A. Brisé, as Prehearing Officer, that Florida Industrial Power Users Group's Petition to Intervene is hereby granted as set forth herein. It is further

ORDERED that all parties to this proceeding shall furnish copies of all testimony, exhibits, pleadings and other documents which may hereinafter be filed in this proceeding, to:

Florida Industrial Power Users Group
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By ORDER of Commissioner Ronald A. Brisé, as Prehearing Officer, this 7th day of
February, 2014.



RONALD A. BRISE
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.