FILED JUN 10, 2014 DOCUMENT NO. 02858-14 FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

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June 10, 2014

## **VIA: ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Carlotta S. Stauffer Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Commission review of numeric conservation goals

(Tampa Electric Company); FPSC Docket No. 130201-EI

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

Attached for filing in the above docket, on behalf of Tampa Electric Company, is the Rebuttal Testimony of Howard T. Bryant.

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Sincerely,

James D. Beasley

JDB/pp Attachment

cc: All Parties of Record (w/attachment)

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Rebuttal Testimony filed on behalf of Tampa Electric Company, has been furnished electronically this day of June 2014 to the following:

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# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 130201-EI
IN RE: COMMISSION REVIEW OF
NUMERIC CONSERVATION GOALS
TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
OF

HOWARD T. BRYANT

# TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY DOCKET NO. 130201-EI

FILED: 06/10/2014

1		BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
2		REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
3		OF
4		HOWARD T. BRYANT
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6	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
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8	A.	My name is Howard T. Bryant. My business address is 702
9		North Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602.
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11	Q.	Are you the same Howard T. Bryant who filed direct
12		testimony in this proceeding?
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14	A.	Yes, I am.
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16	Q.	What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
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18	A.	My rebuttal testimony addresses significant deficiencies
19		in the direct testimony and exhibits of Natalie Mims and
20		Karl Rábago, testifying on behalf of the Southern
21		Alliance for Clean Energy ("SACE"), Ken Woolf testifying
22		on behalf of Sierra Club and Dr. James Fine testifying on
23		behalf of the Environmental Defense Fund ("EDF").
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25	Q.	Do you have any general comments regarding the overall

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The testimony of each of the above witnesses is Yes. highly critical of the process utilized by the Commission and the FEECA utilities in setting DSM goals. However, that criticism principally relies on conclusions drawn by the intervenor witnesses from reams of conclusory reports and other documentation from around the country, much of it hearsay, and none of which is specific to the task at hand, which is setting DSM goals for the FEECA utilities for the 2015-2024 time period. Despite their across-theboard criticism of the manner in which DSM goals has been set in Florida, when it comes time to provide input as to what those goals should be, the intervenor witnesses pull arbitrary percentages out of the air, as they are forced to do given their lack of any Florida-specific studies or rigorous analyses, as required by Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., or fail to recommend any goals at all, which adds nothing of substance. (Mims - 0.75 percent of retail sales ramping up to one percent in "another year" (page 62); Rábago - no recommended goals at all; Woolf - one percent of annual retail sales by 2019 (page 82); Dr. Fine - no recommended goals but instead, generalized support for non-cost-effective solar applications). those witnesses advocating an arbitrary percent of

revenues approach (Mims and Woolf), neither attempts to examine what impact those arbitrary goals would have on utility customers in Florida. This renders those goals not only arbitrary, but irresponsible and indefensible.

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The general approach of these witnesses is to ignore the nearly 35 years of successful delivery of conservation and energy efficiency programs by Tampa Electric to its In 1981, the Florida Energy Efficiency and customers. Conservation Act ("FEECA") was adopted requiring utilities to offer efficiency programs to customers to help utilities reduce the demand for energy. Tampa Electric was the first utility to receive Commission approval of its plans to meet the requirements of FEECA. The company has been a consistent contributor to the overall success of Florida's conservation efforts.

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The Commission has consistently required aggressive goals and at the same time has strived to be mindful of the rate impact that conservation programs have on customers. With one exception, discussed later, the Commission has accomplished this through the use of a Rate Impact Measure ("RIM") test and Participant test to screen potential DSM measures to avoid undue high utility rate impacts and cross-subsidization of program participants

by non-participants. As I later describe, SACE, Sierra Club and EDF would have the Commission jettison its balanced and effective approach to DSM goals setting and adopt in its place a radical pursuit of per capita reduction in energy consumption without any regard whatsoever for the rate impact on consumers of electric power in Florida. Their approach is wrong and should be rejected.

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Contrary to these intervenor witnesses' suggestions, this Commission and the FEECA utilities have not gotten it all wrong. To the contrary, the FEECA utilities collectively, and Tampa Electric standing alone, have made and continue to make significant achievements in the area of DSM.

### Rebuttal to Natalie Mims Testimony

Q. Please address Ms. Mims assertion that FEECA mandates the use of the Total Resource Cost ("TRC") cost-effectiveness test and that the Commission has mandated the use of TRC?

A. I disagree with her conclusion regarding the FEECA mandate. Moreover, with one exception, the Commission has relied on the RIM test and the Participant test in setting DSM goals for the FEECA utilities. The

Commission only receded from the RIM test one time in setting DSM goals, in 2009. The Commission subsequently determined that programs designed to meet those goals would be so costly as to warrant reverting back to RIM based DSM programs for two affected utilities, namely, Florida Power and Light and Duke Energy Florida (Progress Energy at the time of the decision).

Q. Did the Commission utilize the RIM and Participant tests prior to 2009?

A. Yes. In 1994 the Commission set conservation goals for the FEECA utilities based on measures that passed both the Participant and RIM tests. In so doing, the Commission stated:

. . .We find that goals based on measures that pass TRC but not RIM would result in increased rates and would cause customers who do not participate in a utility DSM measure to subsidize customers who do participate. . . . 1

Again, in 2004, the Commission set DSM goals for Tampa Electric and in so doing stated:

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Order No. PSC-94-1313-FOF-EG issues in Docket Nos. 930548-EG, 030549-EG, 930550-EG and 930551-EG.

TECO appropriately used the RIM and Participant tests to determine the cost-effective level of achievable DSM goals. Therefore, TECO's proposed conservation goals are hereby approved.<sup>2</sup>

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Ms. Mims is simply wrong in her assertion that FEECA requires use of the TRC cost-effectiveness test. Clearly the RIM and Participant tests produce goals that do not the same time protect unduly increase rates and at customers who cannot or do not participate in a utility DSM measure from having to subsidize those customers who do participate. I would urge the Commission to reaffirm the RIM test and Participant test as the most appropriate cost-effectiveness tests to set DSM goals at levels that Commission's overall ratemaking comport with the responsibility and which are fair to all customers.

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Q. Beginning on page 28, Ms. Mims alleges that the FEECA utilities' costs are too high. How do you respond to that assertion?

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A. I disagree with her statement. Tampa Electric's assumptions regarding costs are based on Florida specific and Tampa Electric specific analyses. Moreover, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Order No. PSC-04-0765-PAA-EG issued August 9, 2004, Docket No. 040033-EG.

company's program costs have been closely audited by the Commission and are the subject of extensive discovery and analysis in the conservation cost recovery proceedings. I believe Tampa Electric's assumptions are reasonably based on Florida specific costs. Ms. Mims problem is that she has not performed a Florida specific analysis.

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Q. How do you respond to Ms. Mims' suggestion, beginning at the bottom of page 17 of her testimony, that the utilities' concern with cross-subsidization is unfounded?

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I believe it inappropriately disregards basic fairness for customers who, for one reason or another, are not able to participate in DSM programs. That unfairness is avoided by use of the RIM and Participant costeffectiveness tests. Ms. Mims suggestion that crosssubsidization should be overlooked because all not customers that pay for energy infrastructure necessarily receive a comparable benefit ignores the distinction between unavoidable and avoidable subsidization. Cross-subsidization in the design of DSM goals is avoidable and use of the RIM and Participant tests is what enables the avoidance to occur. Just because some cross-subsidization is unavoidable does not warrant not taking steps to avoid cross-subsidization that can be avoided.

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criterion.

Q. How do you respond to Ms. Mims criticism of the use of a two-year payback to address free ridership in the setting of DSM goals?

position is unfounded.

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payback screen has been utilized by the Commission since 1994 as a reasonable means to avoid paying incentives to a customer in circumstances where there is a strong likelihood that the customer will adopt a measure without receiving an incentive. The evaluation, measurement and verification alternative proposed by Ms. Mims would be complicated, difficult to administer and costly, and I

believe unlikely to produce a more accurate assessment of

free ridership than the use of the two-year payback

Q. What is your view of Ms. Mims recommended energy efficiency goals of 0.75 percent of retail sales, ramping up to one percent "in another year"?

A. As I stated in my general comments, this is a completely arbitrary and unsupported recommendation that signifies no regard whatsoever for the impact that recommendation

would have on utility customers in Florida. That recommendation should be summarily rejected as being arbitrary and baseless.

### Rebuttal to Karl R. Rábago

Q. Please describe your overall assessment of the testimony of Karl R. Rábago on behalf of SACE?

A. Mr. Rábago's testimony does not address the issue to be resolved in this proceeding, which is what levels of DSM goals should be set for the FEECA utilities for 2015-2024. Instead, Mr. Rábago urges the Commission to ignore the results of the solar pilot programs the Commission instituted in 2009 and, instead, to adopt a new "value of solar" cost-effectiveness analysis which appears designed to make non-cost-effective solar applications appear cost effective through the use of subjective externality costs. His testimony is accompanied by voluminous non-Florida specific publications, much of which is hearsay, and none of which has any bearing on the issue of what numeric DSM goals should be set in this proceeding.

Mr. Rábago's testimony does not detract from the reasonableness of the DSM goals sponsored in my direct testimony or the fact that the solar pilot programs

implemented by Tampa Electric pursuant to the Commission's 2009 order have clearly proven to be non-cost effective under the RIM and TRC tests and that participants in these programs have been non-cost-effectively subsidized by all other customers.

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Q. What is your assessment of Mr. Rábago's "value of solar" proposal?

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Mr. Rábago's "value of solar" analysis is a complex and A. subjective concept that appears designed to create numerous "savings" in an effort to make non-costeffective solar applications appear cost-effective. In stark contrast, the results of the solar pilot programs ordered by the Commission in 2009 serve as concrete objective evidence that the total benefits from these pilot programs are far too small compared to the costs associated with delivering these programs. Consequently, as I stated in my direct testimony, any continuation of expenditures on this renewable initiative will exacerbate two existing conditions: (1) the continued upward pressure on the ECCR clause for programs that do not pass RIM or TRC cost-effectiveness tests, and (2) the continued payment of subsidies by non-participants to those customers installing these technologies.

simply not a responsible use of ratepayer dollars to promote these programs under any cost-effectiveness test. I believe it would be a complex, time consuming and costly exercise to pursue a "value of solar" initiative in an effort to "prop up" the perceived value of solar programs that clearly have been shown to be non-cost-This non-cost-effective determination of effective. pilot solar programs is a result of the these Commission's directive in the last DSM goals proceeding to conduct the programs in an effort to explore whether or not the infusion of incentive dollars into the marketplace would change the previously recognized noncost-effective DSM nature οf these renewable These pilot solar technologies. programs have clearly demonstrated and confirmed through actual field installations and data collection that they are not costeffective from a DSM measure perspective.

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Based on the non-cost-effective results of the renewable measures contained in the pilot solar programs, it is now appropriate to set renewable goals for Tampa Electric at zero. This is consistent with four previous Commission decisions setting goals at zero when no DSM measures have proven to be cost-effective. This first occurred for Jacksonville Electric Authority ("JEA") in Docket No.

990720-EG, Order No. PSC-00-0588-FOF-EG, and again in Docket No. 040030-EG, Order No. PSC-04-0768-PAA-EG. both orders, the Commission stated that JEA's goals were set at zero because none of the measures evaluated passed both the RIM and Participant tests. The same decision was made for Orlando Utilities Commission ("OUC") Docket No. 990722-EG, Order No. PSC-00-0587-FOF-EG, and again in Docket No. 040035-EG, Order No. PSC-04-0767-PAA-In both orders, the Commission stated that OUC's qoals were set at zero because none of the measures evaluated passed both the RIM and Participant tests. calls for same rationale setting Tampa Electric's renewable goal at zero in this proceeding.

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### Rebuttal to Mr. Woolf's Testimony

Q. Please describe your overall impression of Mr. Woolf's testimony?

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A. Like the other intervenor witnesses, Mr. Woolf apparently begins with the assumption that everything that has been done in Florida in the way of DSM is fundamentally wrong, and that the Commission should abandon its rules and precedent and, instead, adopt sweeping changes imported from other jurisdictions. Mr. Woolf starts out with the blanket conclusion that the proposed goals are too low.

He disregards the reasons why they are low, compared to previous periods. In so doing, he totally disregards the factors outlined in my direct testimony explaining why Tampa Electric's current proposed goals are lower than those proposed five years ago.

Q. How do you respond to Mr. Woolf's criticism of the RIM test?

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A. His criticisms of the RIM test are flawed for the same reasons discussed earlier relative to Ms. Mims comments on the RIM test. Mr. Woolf, like Ms. Mims, is urging the Commission to jettison a cost-effectiveness test which keeps a reasonable eye on rates and a reasonable guard against cross-subsidization on the theory that those concerns should take a back seat to maximizing DSM, whatever the cost.

Q. On page 23 Mr. Woolf states that cross-subsidies are endemic to regulated electric utilities, and provides several examples. How do you respond to his suggestion that cross-subsidies are not that important?

A. Like Ms. Mims, Mr. Woolf ignores the distinction between avoidable and unavoidable cross-subsidies. He prefaces

his examples with the phrase "while it is important to avoid cross-subsidies where possible", which is telling. The examples he provides are the unavoidable cross-subsidies. The cross-subsidization which the use of the RIM test and the Participant test prevent is avoidable cross-subsidization, which is possible to prevent and, therefore, should be pursued, based on Mr. Woolf's own admission.

Q. Please address Mr. Woolf's suggestion on pages 28-29 that the focus should be on reducing bills as opposed to focusing on rates?

Q. For residential customers the bottom line on the bill is a function of rates and usage. Utility customers focus on the rate because it determines not only the cost of the product consumed, but also the amount of electricity the customer can plan on using during a budgeting period. Despite his focus on the bottom line amount shown on the bill, I am sure that Mr. Woolf, like most people, has a keen interest in the rate being charged. Anyone driving down the road with little gasoline left in the tank would start looking at the prices posted at different gas stations when deciding where to fill up, especially when two stations are next to each other, easily accessible

and one is posting a rate per gallon that is less than the other. This same focus on price per unit applies to all commodities purchased by the average person. It also accounts for the fact that the Commission requires a period of 30 days between the approval of a rate increase and the implementation of that rate increase, so that utility customers can plan accordingly in their electric consumption, particularly in the commercial and industrial sectors.

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Q. Please address Mr. Woolf's criticism, beginning on page 32, that the utilities have not accounted for cost of greenhouse gas ("GHG") regulations?

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Mr. Woolf has criticized the utilities for not speculating about what, if any, GHG regulations may be promulgated in the future. Rather than spending Tampa Electric's customers' dollars based on speculation, the company believes the prudent course of action is to await the adoption of any such regulations and then to react accordingly. Tampa Electric has taken the potential for greenhouse qas regulations into and account has determined that it would rather not gamble with its customers' money at this juncture.

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Q. Have you taken into account the Environmental Protection Agency's recently announced proposed regulation that would require carbon emission reductions by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2030?

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Α. Yes, and the fact that such a regulation has proposed does not necessarily mean it will be adopted. Significant opposition to the proposed regulation has been highlighted in the press and legal challenges are reportedly being prepared. Tampa Electric does believe it would be prudent to speculate about carbon costs associated with this proposed regulation that may or may not come into being. Carbon costs were factored into the goal setting process five years ago and the company finds itself, five years later, not whether or when carbon reduction related requirements will become final, or what the content of any final requirements may be.

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Q. How do you respond to Mr. Woolf's contention, beginning at page 35, that the utilities ignore non-energy benefits of energy efficiency?

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A. Mr. Woolf attempts to call upon largely non-quantifiable externalities as benefits when he, himself, has not even

attempted to quantify the "value" of those externalities. This is just another unsupported argument in favor of higher DSM goals that will cause unknown but increased impacts to customer rates.

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Q. Please respond to Mr. Woolf's contention, beginning at page 44, that the technical potential estimates understate DSM potential?

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Mr. Woolf's contention that the technical potential was understated is focused in part on behavioral measures where savings are predicated on sustained customer behavior over the life of the measure, measures already captured in the technical potential such as HVAC systems, and DSM programs where multiple measures are involved in providing the total program savings. Tampa Electric adhered to the Commission's Order Establishing Procedure which stated the conclusion drawn from the June 17, 2013 Staff meeting with the parties. That conclusion was stated as follows, "The parties agreed that the Technical Study used in the previous numeric goals Potential proceeding, Docket Nos. 0804070-EG - 080412-EG, should be updated by each utility, on or about September 30, 2013." The Staff correctly understood any incremental value to performing a full technical potential study on the heels

of a recent, robust study was far less in value than the cost necessary to undertake such an endeavor. Furthermore, the groundwork for any interested party to provide any new measures for inclusion in the technical potential update evaluation process was clearly outlined at the June 17 meeting. The utilities simply asked for Florida specific data on any new measure's performance and the measure would then be included. This was the same criteria each utility was also required to provide.

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Q. Please respond to Mr. Woolf's argument against the twoyear payback screening to account for free ridership?

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Mr. Woolf's criticism of the two-year payback screen for free ridership ignores the intuitive reasonableness of this measure and demonstrates his unfamiliarity with the Commission's rule concerning conservation qoals related matters. Rule 25-17.0021, F.A.C., implements conservation goals for electric utilities. Subsection (3) of that rule requires that each utility's projection in a proceeding to establish or modify DSM goals shall reflect consideration of a number of factors including "free riders" during the goals setting process postponing the evaluation to the program development stage as Mr. Woolf argues. Free ridership occurs when a

customer is provided an economic incentive to take an action that the customer likely would take on its own, even without receiving the incentive. As a simple example, the average person would not need to receive a \$2 incentive to bend down and pick up a stray \$5 bill the person happened to spot on the sidewalk. Paying the \$2 incentive would be a waste of resources because the average person would pick up the stray \$5 bill anyway.

It is reasonable to assume that most, if not all, DSM measures that pay for themselves within two years or less are sufficiently attractive from an economic perspective that the average homeowner or business manager will take advantage of the measure on their own without receiving an incentive from the utility. The two-year payback screen is a reasonable means of considering and avoiding free ridership.

The Commission has a long history of using the two-year payback criterion in goals setting and program participation standards. Tampa Electric first introduced the screen in 1991 as a key part of a program standard. The program standard restricted incentive payments to any measure that had less than a two-year customer payback. The Commission approved the two-year payback standard in

1991 and has subsequently approved it in every program filing since then. In 1994, Florida Power and Light introduced the two-year payback screen in their goals docket as a means of minimizing free riders and the Commission approved FPL's goals that were based on this standard. The Commission Staff has acknowledged the use of the Participant test and the two-year payback criterion to control free ridership in recent workshops. John Laitner with the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy ("ACEEE") published an article identifying the two-year back as a reasonable threshold for a customer to not require any utility incentive. Similarly, the Environmental Protection Agency Energy Star program indicates that consumers desire payback when incremental up-front investment is required and that period is in the range of two to three years. Based on this overwhelming support and utilization of the two-year payback criterion, Electric believes it remains the most appropriate tool for minimizing free ridership.

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In addition, the use of the two-year payback screen to minimize free riders was decided upon early in the collaborative process in the goals setting proceedings five years ago. Mr. Wilson of SACE/NRDC participated in

the discussion and agreed to the decision.

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Q. Please respond to Mr. Woolf's recommended DSM goals to achieve annual efficiency savings equal to one percent of annual retail sales by 2019?

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Just like Ms. Mims' recommendation of 0.75 percent of A. retail sales, ramping up to one percent in "another year", Mr. Woolf's one percent recommendation is totally arbitrary and unsupported and should be rejected. Ms. Mims, Mr. Woolf rolls out his arbitrary percentage of retail sales goal without any consideration whatsoever for the rate impact on utility customers in Florida. simply and summarily concludes, at page 87, that the rate impacts of the Sierra Club goals will not be much higher than those of the utilities' goals. But in fact, the rate impact of an arbitrarily selected one percent goal will be significantly higher. Using Tampa Electric's proposed RIM-based DSM goals and associated costs to determine an order of magnitude of the rate impact on customers under the burden of a one percent DSM energy goal, the increased cost of DSM through the ECCR clause will be almost six fold, from an average of \$47 million annually to an average of \$260 million annually. commensurate bill impact for 1,200 kWh will also occur,

1 namely, the customer's monthly ECCR cost will increase 2 from an average of \$3.22 per month to an average of \$17.85 per month. 3 4 5 Q. Do you have an opinion regarding Mr. Woolf's suggestion that decoupling be considered as a method to treat the 6 lost revenue issue? 7 8 9 Decoupling is, as Mr. Woolf concedes, a concept that has been considered and rejected by this Commission. 10 11 beyond the scope of this proceeding and should not be considered. 12 13 14 Rebuttal to Dr. Fine's Testimony 15 Q. Do you have any overall comments regarding Dr. Fine's 16 testimony? 17 18 These are goals setting dockets to implement FEECA 19 - not an all-consuming omnibus proceeding to address the universe of environmental objectives envisioned by Dr. 20 Fine. 21 22 23 Q. Please respond Fine's suggestion to Dr.

utilities should take steps to factor in GHG regulations

cost in the equation to determine the cost-

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A. The bulk of the first 13 pages of Dr. Fine's testimony suggests that the FEECA utilities should engage in speculation as to what GHG regulations may be enacted and what they may cost. As stated earlier with respect to witness Woolf's testimony, Tampa Electric would rather not speculate when the impact of any wrong guesses shows up in customers' bills. The company believes the future of GHG regulation is anything but settled and that factoring in any costs of GHG regulation at this time is unwarranted.

Q. Beginning on page 14 Dr. Fine suggests a continuation of the solar programs the Commission required the utilities to undertake as pilot programs in 2009. How do you respond?

As I have previously indicated, these programs are not cost-effective and the rebates associated with these programs should not be continued. At such time as solar applications can be demonstrated to be cost-effective, Tampa Electric will consider them as it would any other DSM measure. However, unless and until that occurs, the company does not believe the solar pilot programs should

be continued.

As previously stated in response to Mr. Rábago's testimony, the past Commission decision to set goals at zero when no measures are cost-effective is appropriate for Tampa Electric's renewable goal.

Q. On pages 19 through 22 Dr. Fine recommends various changes for distributed solar PV programs. How do you respond?

A. These various tweaks to distributed solar PV programs do not detract from the fact that solar PV has been demonstrated, on a pilot program basis, to be non-cost-effective in the company's service area. Until such time as that changes, none of the changes suggested by Dr. Fine have any value.

Q. Do you have any concluding remarks regarding the testimonies by SACE, Sierra Club and EDF?

A. Yes, I do. I want to stress the solid efforts that have been put forth by the FEECA utilities and the Commission's Staff over nearly a year-long process to develop aggressive, yet reasonable, DSM goals consistent

with the Commission's goal setting rule and the provisions of FEECA that it implements. All participants in this effort should be proud of the results and confident that they meet all relevant legislative The counter proposals of SACE and Sierra objectives. Club, on the other hand, appear to be arbitrarily crafted, "made up" goals designed to pursue overarching environmental agenda that has no whatsoever for electric customers in Florida or the economy of this state.

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The "goals" proposed by SACE and Sierra Club are nine to thirteen times higher on a winter/summer peak demand basis, and approximately thirteen times higher on an energy basis than the utility-sponsored goals derived from a nearly year long effort with valuable Staff input. Furthermore, these "goals" would increase Electric's cost of DSM through the ECCR clause almost six fold, from an average of \$47 million annually to an average of \$260 million annually. Additionally, the customer's monthly ECCR cost for a 1,200 kWh bill will increase from an average of \$3.22 per month to an average of \$17.85 per month. These stark differences alone make and Sierra Club proposed goals SACE inherently suspect. Those differences, together with the

deficiencies in the testimonies of the SACE, Sierra Club and EDF witnesses I have described, form a solid basis for rejecting the proposals put forth by these intervenors.

Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes it does.