

5443 Florence Point Drive
Amelia Island, FL 32034
29 August 2017

Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 23299-0850

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COMMISSION
CLERK

Subject: Docket Number 20170150-Ei, FPU Rate Increase

Dear Sir or Madam;

The Florida Public Service Commission should reject Florida Public Utilities request to increase rates and charges since their economic growth "continues to achieve top quartile performance in the industry." Florida Public Utilities are unwilling to seriously consider underground power transmission in serious risk storm areas.

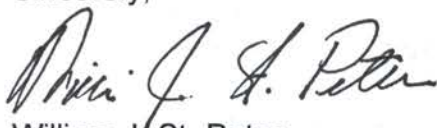
The annual report of Florida Public Utilities' parent, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, states:

- They are in the top quartile performance in the industry,
- Have the 10th consecutive year of record earnings,
- Brought their compound annual shareholder return to 16% over the past 10 years,
- Their net income has more than quadrupled from \$10.7 million to \$44.7 million,
- The annual cash dividend is now about 1.6 times what it was 10 years ago,
- In the last 5 years their stock has appreciated from \$30.74 per share to \$80.05, \$20.34/share just in the past year.
- Additionally, the annual report states that the Eight Flags Energy CHP Plant on Amelia Island which commenced operations in June 2016 will produce 50% of the Island's needs at a savings of \$28,000,000 over 20 years (\$1.4 million savings per year on average).

Finally, in past public meetings, Florida Public Utilities executives have clearly voiced objection to burying power distribution in their operational areas at significant risk of hurricane and storm.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William J. St. Peter