

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 11:54 AM
To: 'Germaine Smith-Baugh'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20190015-EG

Good Afternoon, Mr. Smith-Baugh.

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket Number 20190015, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Thank you!

Toni Hover
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6467

From: Germaine Smith-Baugh [<mailto:gsbaugh@ulbcfl.org>]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 5:16 PM
To: Records Clerk
Subject: Docket No. 20190015-EG

Please see attached letter regarding Docket No. referenced above.

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Germaine Smith Baugh, Ed.D

President and CEO
Urban League of Broward County
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July 22, 2019

Adam Teitzman,
Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
3625 NW 82nd Ave #400
Doral, FL 33166

RE: **Docket No. 20190015-EG**

Dear Mr. Teitzman,

Most recently, the Urban League of Broward County, along with a few other local organizations, addressed our County Commission as they considered a recommendation that we believed would be harmful to low income residents and those on fixed income. In considering the proposed language in a few sections of the recommendation, I requested advice from the National Urban League's partner on energy issues and received guidance on the matter.

This letter serves to provide a similar viewpoint to the Commission. The Urban League's mission is to promote economic and social equality. To that end, the proposed language, which would increase the conservation savings ratings could put upward pressure on rates for all customers, including low and moderate income customers. Broward County is one of the most cost-burdened geographies in the United States for housing with wages not keeping pace with living costs; therefore, any increases that may impact living expenses once again creates a burden.

Another concern is that most times conservation initiatives do not positively impact the economic status of renters. With the affordable housing crisis in Broward County, renters dominate the market. Most beneficiaries of efficiency programs own their home or condo. Low and moderate income people who rent will not be able to take advantage of these programs, unless these programs are targeted toward appliances they purchase for their residences. In essence, most efficiency programs benefit homeowners and landlords versus renters who are predominately low-income.

FPL's philosophy is to support efficiency goals that are fair and cost effective and the Urban League believes that the Public Service Commission operates under a similar philosophy. Thank you in advance for considering the points of view of the Urban League and consumers we serve in Broward County.

Sincerely,

Germaine Smith Baugh
President and CEO

Cc: File