

Jacob Veaughn

From: Jacob Veaughn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 1:36 PM
To: 'tbierma@ilstu.edu'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated energy savings practices

Good Morning, Tom Bierma

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200181 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Jacob Veaughn
Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
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850.413.6656

-----Original Message-----

From: tbierma@everyactioncustom.com <tbierma@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 1:12 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket No. 20200181; Modernize Florida's outdated energy savings practices

Dear Florida PSC Commissioners,

Maximizing energy efficiency should be our top priority in fighting sea level rise.

We know that energy efficiency is the quickest, cleanest, and cheapest way to meet our energy needs while also helping Floridians to cut energy waste and save money on power bills. Helping hard-working families and businesses use energy smarter employs over 100,000 Floridians, driving economic growth by keeping energy dollars in local communities.

Yet the practices the Commission relies upon in setting goals for the state's largest utilities haven't been modernized in almost 30 years – and that has led to Florida's largest power companies badly trailing leading utilities in the Southeast and across the nation in delivering energy savings to families and businesses.

Most recently, Florida's use of outdated economic screens – like the two-year payback screen and the Rate Impact Measure (RIM) test, both of which penalize saving energy – led to power companies proposing goals of zero. Hardworking Floridians deserve access to programs that will help them lower their power bills – especially today.

It's time to move beyond practices that take real efficiency off the table.

You have a unique opportunity through this rulemaking process to reform practices so they reflect modern industry standards. Let's level the playing field so energy savings programs compete on a fair basis with costly new power plants. Let's capture technological innovation and put it to work for a smarter grid, and let's protect our most vulnerable customers by aiming to reduce the energy burden faced by so many hard-working families.

A lot has changed in 30 years. Let's modernize our practices to put efficiency to work for all in unlocking savings for Florida's families, businesses, and the state.

Sincerely,
Tom Bierma
Fort Myers, FL 33907
tbierma@ilstu.edu