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1682 SE Pleasantview Street
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 34983
June 22, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shuman Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL. 32399

Ref: Docket #20210015-E!

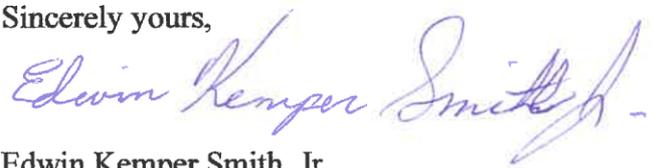
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Florida Power & Light has seen fit to answer my original challenge with a very eloquent and persuasive letter. I just have a few issues that remain unaddressed in this letter. They talk about how their current rates are lower than what they were in 2006. I believe them since they have been able to significantly reduce their cost for fuel by using so much solar power to create power on their network. To offset this cost reduction, they have redundant offices chasing who is paying for surge suppression service. Even when a claim is submitted, it is denied as the products destroyed by the surge are deemed replaceable, which would not have had to be if the suppression service had done its job.

They are expanding their revenue sources by providing appliance replacement service at a level that is comparable to other home warranty service programs. The letter goes on to say that “the company’s earnings are not guaranteed.” The reality of life is that nothing is guaranteed. The fact that they have established a \$75 million payment assistance program is as much to prop up the marketplace rather than have a large number of vacant establishments using no power.

Living on a fixed income as I do, increases are not easy for me to address especially when they occur after the COLA is determined. I might not be so exercised if FP & L wanted this 11% increase spread over the 4 years, except the economists are forecasting this current inflationary period as temporary. I totally disagree as employers are having to incentivize hiring cost so as to get a body and they are not getting the educated, hardworking, people that they need to be profitable without increasing their cost. Those of us on fixed incomes are going to get hit hardest during this time. This is why I am so opposed to a fixed equity assessment on the FP & L customers.

Sincerely yours,



Edwin Kemper Smith, Jr.

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