



Writer's Direct Dial Number: (850) 521-1706
Writer's E-Mail Address:
bkeating@gunster.com

May 15, 2025

BY E-PORTAL

Mr. Adam Teitzman
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 20250017-EI: Review of 2026-2035 Storm Protection Plan, pursuant to Rule 25-6.030, F.A.C., Florida Public Utilities Company.

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing, please find the Joint Stipulations of Florida Public Utilities Company and the Office of Public Counsel.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Sincerely,

/s/Beth Keating

Beth Keating
Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A.
215 South Monroe St., Suite 601
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 521-1706

MEK
cc:/(Service List)

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Review of 2026-2035 Storm Protection Plan, pursuant to Rule 25-6.030, F.A.C.,
Florida Public Utilities Company.

DOCKET NO. 20250017-EI

DATED: May 15, 2025

**JOINT STIPULATIONS OF FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY AND THE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL**

Florida Public Utilities Company (“FPUC” or “Company”) and the Office of Public Counsel (“OPC”)(jointly herein “Parties”) hereby jointly submit for approval the following Joint Stipulations (“Stipulations”), which, if approved, will resolve the issues between the Parties in this Docket No. 20250017-EI. The proposed Stipulations are as follows:

1. The Parties stipulate and agree that the following prefiled direct and rebuttal testimony and exhibits, including errata, may be entered into the record for this docket:

A. **TESTIMONY**

<u>Direct</u>		
<u>Witness</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Issue</u>
P. Mark Cutshaw	FPUC’s 2026 – 2035 Storm Protection Plan	1 & 2
Kevin J. Mara	Appropriateness of Storm Protection Plan and Proposed Spending Levels	1 & 2
<u>Rebuttal</u>		
P. Mark Cutshaw	Rebuttal to OPC Witness Mara	1 & 2

B. EXHIBITS

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Issue</u>
P. Mark Cutshaw	PMC-01	FPUC Storm Protection Plan 2026-2035	1 & 2
P. Mark Cutshaw	Errata to PMC-01, dated March 27, 2025		1 & 2
Kevin J. Mara	KJM-1	Curriculum Vitae	
Kevin J. Mara	KJM-2	FPUC's Response to OPC's First Set of Interrogatories, No. 10a	1 & 2
Kevin J. Mara	KJM-3	FPUC's Response to OPC's First Set of Interrogatories, No. 10b	1 & 2
Kevin J. Mara	KJM-4	FPUC's Response to OPC's First Set of Interrogatories, No. 10 f, g, and h	1 & 2
Kevin J. Mara	KJM-5	FPUC's Response to OPC's First Set of Interrogatories, No. 11	1 & 2

2. The Parties agree to waive cross-examination of these witnesses in Docket No. 20250017-EI, and, if approved by the Commission, have no objection to the excusal of these witnesses from further appearing at the hearing.

3. The Parties stipulate that all of FPUC's responses to OPC's discovery requests, as well as those discovery responses identified on Commission Staff's Comprehensive Exhibit List, may be entered into the record.

4. The Parties agree that continuation of the six (6) programs included in FPUC's previously approved Plan are appropriate for continuation. Specifically, those programs are:

- a. Overhead Feeder Hardening
- b. Overhead Lateral Hardening
- c. Overhead Lateral Undergrounding
- d. Distribution Pole Inspections and Replacements
- e. Transmission System Inspection and Hardening
- f. Transmission and Distribution Vegetation Management Program

5. The Parties agree that a ruling should be deferred on FPUC's proposed Distribution Connectivity and Automation Program until a subsequent proceeding pursuant to Section 366.96(6), Florida Statutes, to address the Company's next Storm Protection Plan update.

6. The Parties agree that the targeted amount of annual spending included with FPUC's proposed 2026-2035 Storm Protection Plan will be modified as set forth on Attachment 1, which is attached and incorporated herein.

7. The Parties further agree that the amounts set forth in Attachment 1 will not be considered specific targets or hard caps. FPUC will explain deviations in its annual Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause filings.

8. The Parties agree that the stipulations set forth herein and reflected in Attachment 1 reflect a reasonable compromise of competing positions, testimony, and evidence put forth by the Parties.

9. Subject to the modification to FPUC's 2026-2035 SPP reflected by Attachment 1, the Parties stipulate to the following positions on the issues identified for Docket No. 20250017-EI:

.C. Stipulated Positions on the Issues

ISSUE 1: Should the proposed Distribution Connectivity and Automation Program be included in FPUC's proposed 2026-2035 SPP?

Stipulation: A ruling on FPUC's proposed Distribution Connectivity and Automation Program should be deferred until a subsequent proceeding to address FPUC's next update to its SPP.

ISSUE 2: Should the Commission approve, approve with modification, or deny FPUC's Storm Protection Plan?

Stipulation: The Commission should defer a ruling on FPUC's Distribution Connectivity and Automation Program consistent with the Parties' Stipulation of Issue 1 but should otherwise approve FPUC's 2026-2035 SPP subject to the modifications set forth in Attachment 1 to the Stipulations filed by FPUC and OPC on May 15, 2025.

ISSUE 3: Should this docket be closed?

Stipulation: Yes. The Parties agree that this docket should be closed upon issuance of an Order approving FPUC's 2026-2035 Storm Protection Plan as modified by the Stipulations filed by FPUC and OPC on May 15, 2025.

10. The Parties stipulate and agree that FPUC's 2026-2035, as modified by the Stipulations reflected herein, is a reasonable approach to meeting the requirements of Section 366.96, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-6.030, Florida Administrative Code.

11. The Parties further stipulate and agree that the positions and agreements reflected herein apply only to FPUC's 2026-2035 SPP addressed in this Docket No. 20250017-EI, as modified by the Stipulations set forth herein, and in no way impact or impair the Parties' ability to take

different positions in any other current or future proceedings before the Commission, including, but not limited to, any other SPP or SPPCRC dockets.

12. The Parties stipulate and agree that these Stipulations fully resolve their respective issues in this proceeding and request that they be approved by the Commission.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

In witness whereof, FPUC and OPC witness their mutual acceptance and agreement with these Stipulations by their signatures below.

Florida Public Utilities Company

By: 

Matt Everngam, AVP/Regulatory Affairs/Chesapeake Utilities Corporation for Florida Public Utilities Company

Office of Public Counsel



Walt Trierweiler, Public Counsel
Charles J. Rehwinkel
Office of Public Counsel
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Room 812
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by Electronic Mail to the following parties of record this 15th day of May, 2025.

Office of Public Counsel Walter Trierweiler/Charles Rehwinkel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400 Trierweiler.Walt@leg.state.fl.us Rehwinkel.Charles@leg.state.fl.us Christensen.Patty@leg.state.fl.us Wessling.Mary@leg.state.fl.us Ponce.Octavio@leg.state.fl.us Watrous.Austin@leg.state.fl.us	Michelle D. Napier Director, Regulatory Affairs Distribution Florida Public Utilities Company 1635 Meathe Drive West Palm Beach, Florida 33411 W: (561) 838-1712 mnapier@fpuc.com Matt Everngam Florida Public Utilities Company 208 Wildlight Avenue Yulee, FL 32097 meverngam@fpuc.com
Florida Public Service Commission Carlos Marquez Jennifer Augspurger 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399 discovery-gcl@psc.state.fl.us cmarquez@psc.state.fl.us jaugspur@psc.state.fl.us	

By: /s/ Beth Keating
Beth Keating
Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A.
215 South Monroe St., Suite 601
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 521-1706

Attachment 1

FPUC's 2026-2035 Estimated Storm Protection Plan Costs by Program (in Millions)															
		2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total			
Distribution - OH Feeder Hardening	Capital	\$ 5.67	\$ 5.72	\$ 5.60	\$ 5.58	\$ 5.46	\$ 5.82	\$ 5.63	\$ 5.76	\$ 5.62	\$ 5.60	\$ 56.46			
	O&M	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 1.13			
	Total	\$ 5.78	\$ 5.84	\$ 5.71	\$ 5.70	\$ 5.57	\$ 5.93	\$ 5.75	\$ 5.88	\$ 5.73	\$ 5.71	\$ 57.59			
Distribution - OH Lateral Hardening	Capital	\$ 6.75	\$ 7.25	\$ 6.30	\$ 6.64	\$ 6.13	\$ 6.23	\$ 6.67	\$ 6.93	\$ 6.49	\$ 6.76	\$ 66.14			
	O&M	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.14	\$ 1.32			
	Total	\$ 6.89	\$ 7.39	\$ 6.43	\$ 6.77	\$ 6.25	\$ 6.35	\$ 6.81	\$ 7.07	\$ 6.62	\$ 6.89	\$ 67.47			
Distribution - OH Lateral Underground	Capital	\$ 4.13	\$ 4.87	\$ 4.13	\$ 3.96	\$ 4.67	\$ 3.96	\$ 3.94	\$ 4.12	\$ 4.15	\$ 4.05	\$ 41.99			
	O&M	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.84			
	Total	\$ 4.22	\$ 4.97	\$ 4.21	\$ 4.04	\$ 4.77	\$ 4.03	\$ 4.02	\$ 4.20	\$ 4.23	\$ 4.14	\$ 42.83			
Distribution - Connectivity and Automation	Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.46	\$ 19.68			
	O&M	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.39			
	Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.51	\$ 20.08			
Distribution - Pole Insp. & Replace	Capital	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 5.00			
	O&M	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19	\$ 1.90			
	Total	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 6.90			
T&D - Vegetation Management	Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
	O&M	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 25.00			
	Total	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 25.00			
Transmission - Inspection and Hardening	Capital	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.20	\$ 12.00			
	O&M	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.32			
	Total	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.22	\$ 12.32			
Totals	Capital	\$ 18.26	\$ 19.55	\$ 20.19	\$ 20.34	\$ 20.42	\$ 20.16	\$ 20.41	\$ 20.97	\$ 20.41	\$ 20.57	\$ 201.28			
	O&M	\$ 3.05	\$ 3.07	\$ 3.08	\$ 3.09	\$ 3.19	\$ 3.08	\$ 3.08	\$ 3.10	\$ 3.08	\$ 3.09	\$ 30.91			
	Total	\$ 21.30	\$ 22.62	\$ 23.27	\$ 23.43	\$ 23.61	\$ 23.24	\$ 23.49	\$ 24.07	\$ 23.49	\$ 23.66	\$ 232.18			