CORRESPONDENCE 2/2/2018 DOCUMENT NO. 00917-2018

## !p

February 2, 2018

The Honorable Julie I. Brown Chairman Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

The Tampa Innovation Alliance (T!p) is providing this letter to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) to show support in favor of Tampa Electric's proposed Lighting Conversion Program.

Tampa !p: Potential Unleashed is a multi-jurisdictional district anchored by globally recognized institutions that drive economic activity in the area, engaging tens of thousands of students and educators, healthcare workers and patients, and four million tourists annually. Our anchor institutions include: Busch Gardens, Florida Hospital, Moffitt Cancer Center, RD Management (University Mall) and University of South Florida, with an a additional 240 member base of business, nonprofits and students.

On September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Tampa Electric filed petitions with the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) specific to its lighting service. Docket No. 20170198-El seeks to establish new smart LED rates and changeout existing non-LED luminaires to smart LED across 5 years, and Docket No. 20170199-El supports cost recovery for Tampa Electric of the conversion as a conservation program. The Innovation Alliance supports the entire proposed Lighting Conversion Program as these infrastructure upgrades will help accomplish the City's efforts to improve roadway safety and personal security, and provide environmental, conservation and economic benefits.

The conversion will upgrade each LED under the Lighting Conversion Program with a networked lighting controller (NLC) which provides new communication and sensory ability to the LED than can be provided through the traditional photocell. The NLC is what makes the light smart and positions these assets to detect, measure, and perform other non-traditional functions through other attached or local networked devices. The deployment of these new smart LEDs will provide opportunity for leveraging sensor data in support future services in the Innovation Alliance area. Additionally, the new LED rates proposed as a part of Lighting Conversion Program include many benefits while the overall nominal average customer bill for lighting service will be reduced.

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The Tampa Innovation Alliance is excited about this proposed program and believes that our communities and citizens will enjoy a long-lasting benefit.

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Mark Sharpe Executive Director

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CC:

Honorable Commissioner Art Graham Honorable Commissioner Ronald A. Brisé Honorable Commissioner Donald J. Polmann Honorable Commissioner Gary F. Clark Office of Commission Clerk

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