

**Antonia Hover**

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**From:** Veronica Washington  
**Sent:** Friday, August 24, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket Nos. 20170235-EI and 20170236-EU  
**Attachments:** 8-24-18 - Peter O'Bryan-ltr.pdf

Good Afternoon

Please place the attached letter in Docket Nos. 20170235-EI and 20170236-EU.

Thank you!

Veronica D. Washington  
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Andrew Fay  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850)413-6036

*BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS*

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Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Chairman Art Graham  
Public Service Commission of Florida  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32311



RE: In re: Petition by Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) for authority to charge FPL rates to former City of Vero Beach customers and for approval of FPL's accounting treatment for City of Vero Beach transaction.  
Docket No. 20170235-EI,

In re: Joint petition to terminate territorial agreement, by Florida Power & Light and the City of Vero Beach.  
Docket No. 20170236-EU.

Dear Chairman Graham,

As Chairman of the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners, and representing both current FPL customers and future FPL customers, I am writing to you to continue the support of the July 2, 2018 Order approving the sale of the City of Vero Beach (COVB) electric system to FPL as structured. It is very unfortunate that a very few disgruntled former City officials and employees, plus unnamed outside entities, have filed petitions to attempt to block or delay the closing of the sale, originally scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Both the petitions by the Civic Association of Indian River County, Inc. and Brian Heady claim that no "exceptional circumstances" exist since out of city residents in both the Town of Indian River Shores and the unincorporated county, have "full voting representation on the City's Utility Commission". It is important to note that the City Utility Commission is advisory in nature only and is not a true Utility Commission. These petitioners also claim of "a dire burden

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on the City taxpayers” and threats of city bankruptcy. These are all false and unproven exaggerations being used in a scare tactic manner.

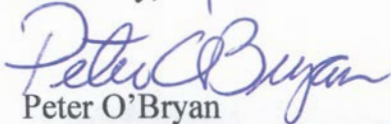
The Florida Industrial Power Users Group (FIPUG) petition claims that their members will be burdened with “a rate increase to pay for the premium FPL intends to pay the COVB for its electric system”. This too is a false and unproven exaggeration. FPL has in no way indicated that there would be any rate increase.

I hope the PSC will consider the **real** cost of these petitions to the current COVB ratepayers. The COVB and FPL have a closing date scheduled for October 1, 2018, at which time COVB customers will start receiving FPL rates immediately. PSC staff has calculated a \$27 per month savings for COVB customers once they switch to FPL. With 35,000 customers, a one month delay in the closing because of the petitions will cost COVB customers \$945,000.00. At \$31,500 per day, just the 11 day delay until the hearing will cost those customers \$346,500.00. These are real dollars based on a calculation by your staff, not some hypothetical scare tactic claim as in the petitions.

Many of us who have worked hard on the sale and are extremely disappointed will once again be travelling to Tallahassee for the hearing. I hope that you will again extend us the courtesy to allow our voices to be heard.

I clearly remember the words that Commissioner Brown spoke during her Invocation, praying that the PSC “make fair and balanced decisions”. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the PSC made a fair and balanced decision. I urge you for a similar outcome on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,



Peter O'Bryan

Chairman, Indian River County Board of County Commissioners.

CC:

Commissioner Julie Brown

Commissioner Gary Clark

Commissioner Donald Polmann

Commissioner Andrew Fay