

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: 06/15/2021
TO: Office of Commission Clerk
FROM: Bureau of Consumer Assistance, Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
RE: Customer Correspondence

Please add the attached customer correspondence to Docket Correspondence-Consumers and their Representatives, in Docket 20210000.

RECEIVED-FPSC
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COMMISSION
CLERK



Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

Prospera is the leading Hispanic, economic development non-profit organization in Florida and North Carolina, specializing in providing bilingual assistance to Hispanic entrepreneurs who want to establish or expand their businesses. Its mission is to help start, sustain, and grow Hispanic-owned businesses to achieve community prosperity. For 30 years, Prospera has been able to serve thousands of businesses, providing individual consulting to more than 21,000 entrepreneurs, marketing over \$147 million in loans for small businesses, and helping them create or retain over 29,000 jobs.

Our mission could not be fulfilled without the financial support of community stakeholders like Duke Energy Florida. Prospera has partnered with Duke Energy Florida for the last seven years through volunteerism, education, and financial contributions that have allowed Prospera to serve more Hispanic entrepreneurs in Florida's west coast and central regions. Together, we have worked to develop curriculum and assistance for small businesses during hurricane disaster recovery to ensure they can access the tools they need to re-build and re-open their businesses, but also to be resilient and better prepared for future natural disasters.

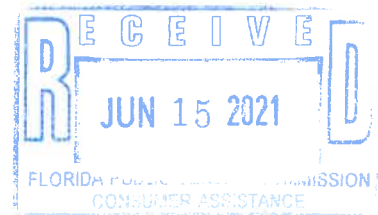
Throughout the partnership, Prospera has been able to work with numerous Duke Energy leaders, from Duke Energy Florida President Melissa Seixas to Director of Stakeholder Engagement Amy Mangan, who serves on our governing Board of Directors. We also count on other Duke Energy employees who volunteer their time and talent serving on our boards and committees to help Prospera deliver services, raise funds, and effectively fulfill our mission.

We are concerned that Duke Energy Florida's purchase and re-organization might result in the closure of their headquarters in Pinellas County and call centers in Clearwater and Lake Mary, which would cost hundreds of Floridians their jobs and create a negative impact on local communities. As an organization, we are concerned with any decision that would put Prospera's relationship with Duke Energy Florida in jeopardy, along with the reduced ability for Duke Energy Florida to invest in the communities we serve. The missions of Prospera and many other non-profit organizations would be hindered if Duke Energy Florida were not able to play the important role of leaders in economic and community development in the state of Florida.

We hope the best interest of customers, like us, remains at the forefront of any decisions.

Sincerely,

Augusto Sanabria
President & CEO



Investors' Circle:



3201 E. Colonial Drive, Suite A20
Orlando, FL 32803

8280 NW 27th Street #517
Doral, FL 33122

2002 N. Lois Avenue #660
Tampa, FL 33607

www.ProsperaUSA.org

1-888-PROSPERA

@ProsperaUSA



National Entrepreneur Center
Orlando Fashion Square Mall
3201 East Colonial Drive, Suite A20
Orlando, FL 32803

ORLANDO FL 328

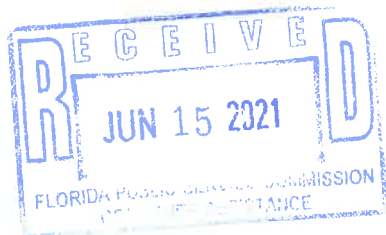
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*Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850*



32399-085099





June 8, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Dear Commissioners:

Florida is at risk of having one of our especially important companies being taken over by a Wall Street hedge fund. According to reports, Elliott Management has invested in Duke Energy and has a plan to take control of the company and break it into parts. We are deeply concerned about what would happen to Duke Energy Florida and what that plan would mean for Floridians.

Duke Energy has many long-term strategies to address the needs of Florida consumers, such as the 50% reduction of CO2 emission by 2030, and a longer-term net-zero strategy by 2050. Duke continues to invest in this community through the extensive investment in EV charging stations and grid improvements. The company recently rolled out the Clean Energy Connection solar program, and the City of Clearwater quickly subscribed so that our city can reach our sustainability targets through this innovative solution to solar power generation.

After suffering through the COVID-19 pandemic, Florida is finally starting down the path of economic recovery. The last thing our community needs now is uncertainty around an essential service, which is likely to occur if Elliott Management takes control of Duke Energy Florida. By their very nature, hedge funds frequently operate for short-term gains. Just as AMPLIFY Clearwater has a long-term vision for our community, we need an energy company with a long-term vision for our region. Duke Energy and their legacy company Florida Power's history in Pinellas County dates to 1899, so their commitment to this area is unmatched.

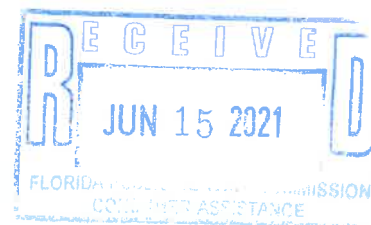
AMPLIFY Clearwater has had the pleasure of working with Duke Energy Florida and its leadership. They are an integral part of our community, both with their infrastructure investments and community investments. The Billions in infrastructure assets in Pinellas County alone makes Duke Energy the single largest property payer in this county. The uncertainty of what an investment group with a short-term strategy could do with those assets, has the potential to impact our county in many unknown ways.

We urge the Florida Public Service Commission to do what it can to prevent this take over, save jobs in Florida, and protect customers in Florida.

Sincerely,

G. Scott Goyer
Chairman of the Board

Amanda Payne
President/CEO

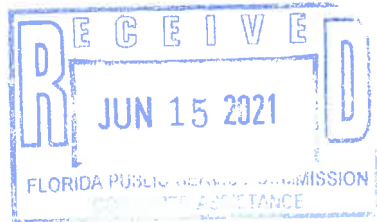


ESTABLISHED 2019

AMPLIFY CLEARWATER

ESTABLISHED 2019

600 Cleveland Street, Suite 100
Clearwater, FL 33755



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Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
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June 2, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

To Whom It May Concern:

As vice president of resource and economic development, I want to take this time to recognize and thank one of our key industry partners, Duke Energy of Florida. I can attest to the tremendous relationship we have with the leadership at Duke. I am also appreciative of the wonderful support they provide to the College.

Over the past several years, Duke energy has helped create a workforce pathway for students to learn about careers in energy sustainability. They have also partnered with Seminole State to add a solar panel array for our Lee Campus at Oviedo. This is a learning laboratory, as well as a cost saver for the institution.

Moreover they are directing support to some of our most impacted students. Because of their support and the work of many other community partners, Seminole State has been recognized as a leader in diversity and equity.

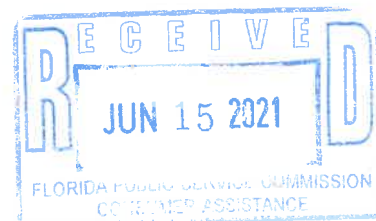
I have attached links to several stories on the impact of Duke Energy at Seminole State College

<https://www.seminolestate.edu/newsroom/article/6207/seminole-state-receives-duke-energy-grant-for-workforce-development>

<https://www.seminolestate.edu/newsroom/article/6255/seminole-state-partners-with-duke-energy-for-new-campus-solar-array>

<https://www.seminolestate.edu/newsroom/article/5528/seminole-state-receives-duke-energy-grant-to-create-mobile-solar-energy-lab>

<https://www.seminolestate.edu/newsroom/article/5757/new-labs-give-engineering-technology-students-hands-on-experience>

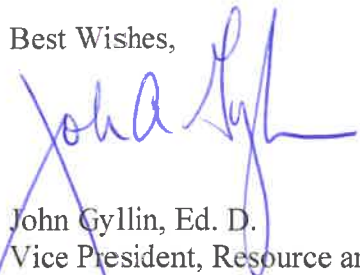


Additionally, Duke Energy has had a board member associated with the College and serves in a variety of ways to assist the Seminole County community. Patty D'Alessandro currently serves on our executive committee of the Foundation for Seminole State College. Sharon Arroyo is also a valuable supporter and cheerleader for causes dear to the College.

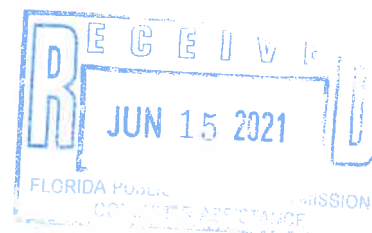
To say that we are proud of our friends at Duke Energy is an understatement.

We are very happy with the support provided by Duke Energy and look forward to along healthy relationship for many years to come.

Best Wishes,



John Gyllin, Ed. D.
Vice President, Resource and Economic Development
Executive Director, Foundation for Seminole State College of Florida, Inc.



Foundation

for SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE

1055 AAA Drive
Heathrow, FL 32746



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June 8, 2021

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After suffering through the COVID-19 pandemic, Florida is finally starting down the path of economic recovery. The last thing the state needs right now is job losses and economic uncertainty, which is exactly what could happen if Elliott Management takes control of Duke Energy Florida

As the Executive Director of Lake Cares, Inc., I have had the pleasure of working with Duke Energy Florida and its leadership. They are an integral part of our community. As a food pantry, we serve thousands of individuals and receive support from Duke Energy.

I urge the Florida Public Service Commission to do what it can to prevent this take over, save jobs in Florida, and protect customers in Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Irene O'Malley".

Irene O'Malley
Executive Director



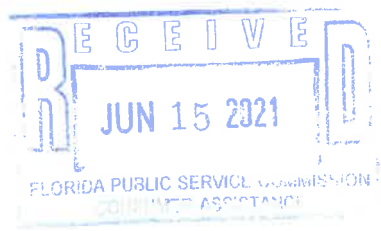


Lake Cares Inc., Food Pantry
2001 W. Old Highway 441, Suite #1
Mount Dora, FL 32757-3646

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