<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO:

Financial Impact Estimating Conference

FROM:

Florida Power & Light Company, Duke Energy Florida, Tampa Electric Company

and Gulf Power Company (the "Utilities")

RE:

Financial Impact Statement for the Proposed Initiative Entitled Re: "Limits

or Prevents Barriers to Local Solar Electricity Supplier"

DATE:

May 4, 2015

Based on the presentations to, and deliberations by, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference ("FIEC" or "Conference"), there is no reasonable doubt that the proposed solar amendment will reduce state and local government revenues, although the extent of the reduction may not be quantifiable at this time. In support of this conclusion, the Utilities note the following for consideration by the Conference:

- 1. As summarized by the memorandum that the Utilities submitted on April 24, 2015 to the Conference, one of the largest sources of revenues to local government from electric sales by utilities is franchise fees. The Utilities paid \$643,900,610 in franchise fees in 2014 and estimate that a total of about \$850 million was paid that year on sales by all utilities.
- 2. Franchise fees are paid pursuant to franchise agreements, which exist between utilities and a multiplicity of municipalities and counties. Nothing presented to the Conference suggests that Local Solar Electricity Suppliers would enter into franchise agreements or otherwise obligate themselves to pay franchise fees or their equivalent.

¹ See attached McDaniel FIEC Memo 4-24-15

- 3. The amount of franchise fees paid is a direct function of utility electric sales. Sales of electricity by Local Solar Electricity Suppliers that are facilitated by the proposed amendment will displace sales by utilities. As a result, utility sales will be lower and franchise revenues will be correspondingly reduced.
- 4. The displacement of utility sales by Local Solar Electricity Suppliers is likely to reduce tax revenues for state and local government as well. Public service tax revenues are likely to decline. Absent a change in the approach to administering the Gross Receipts Tax generally, and its use tax component specifically, the state can also expect a reduction in revenues caused by the proposed amendment.
- 5. Adoption of the proposed amendment is likely to increase costs to state and local government as well. Statutes and rules likely will need to be enacted and amended in order to administer, implement and accommodate the amendment.

Accordingly, the Utilities recommend that the Conference adopt the following Financial Impact Statement:

The overall financial impact of this amendment on state and local government revenues and costs cannot be precisely determined. There will be a direct reduction in franchise fee and tax revenues to government, the extent of which is dependent upon the adoption rate of local solar electricity under the amendment and the resulting displacement of electric sales by electric utilities. State and local governments will incur additional costs due to the amendment. (72 words)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Financial Impact Estimating Conference

FROM: Florida Power & Light Company, Duke Energy Florida, Tampa Electric Company

and Gulf Power Company

RE: Additional Information Concerning Financial Impact Statement for the Proposed

Initiative Entitled Re: "Limits or Prevents Barriers to Local Solar Electricity

Supplier"

DATE: April 22, 2015

At the Financial Impact Estimating Conference ("FIEC") public meeting held on April 10, 2015, proponents of the proposed Initiative asserted that it would have no financial impact on the revenues of state and local government. At this time, Florida Power & Light Company, Duke Energy Florida, Tampa Electric Company and Gulf Power Company (the "Utilities") are not taking a position on the proposed Initiative. However, the proponents' assertion of no financial impact is demonstrably incorrect, and the Utilities are submitting this additional information in support of that conclusion.

As summarized in the materials that the Utilities submitted at the April 10 public meeting, there is a range of taxes and fees that the Utilities, as well as municipal utilities and electric cooperatives, pay to state and local government based on their sales of electricity. Those taxes and fees include sales tax, gross receipts tax, municipal public service tax, the regulatory assessment fee and municipal franchise fees. Approximately \$2.9 billion of such fees and taxes were paid to state and local government in Florida during 2014.

The express purpose of the proposed Initiative is to "encourage and promote local small-scale solar-generated electricity" (Section (a) of the proposed Initiative) and to facilitate its sale to electric consumers in Florida. Those sales will necessarily displace sales of electricity currently made by the Utilities, as well as by municipal utilities and electric cooperatives. For some of the taxes and fees that are currently paid by utilities on electric sales, it is unclear whether or not sales by local solar electricity suppliers ("LSES") would also be subject to those same taxes and fees. The FIEC has asked the Department of Revenue to advise it as to the applicability of certain taxes to LSES sales. However, one of the largest sources of revenues to local government from electric sales by utilities is franchise fees. The Utilities paid \$643,900,610 in franchise fees in 2014 and estimate that a total of about \$850 million was paid that year on sales by all utilities. There is no question that those franchise fees would not be paid on LSES sales. This is because the agreements pursuant to which utilities pay franchise fees are bilateral contracts between the specific utilities and the counties and municipalities that the

utilities serve. There is no counterpart to those franchise agreements for LSES sales. Thus, for every kilowatt-hour of electricity sold by an LSES rather than a utility, it is absolutely certain that there will be a county or municipality somewhere in Florida that loses revenue in the form of foregone franchise fees. This is not speculation; it is a fact.

Attachment 1 to these comments is a series of tables that show the counties and municipalities that have franchise agreements with each of the four Utilities. These are the local governments that will lose franchise-fee revenues on each LSES sale that displaces a Utility sale within their boundaries. There is insufficient information to predict the extent to which LSES sales will displace utility sales, but even displacement of 1% of the Utility sales would result in a loss of about \$8.5 million annually to the affected counties and municipalities. Higher levels of displaced sales would lead inexorably and proportionately to larger losses of local government franchise-fee revenues. And, of course, the displacement of Utility sales may reduce revenues from other taxes and fees as well, depending upon whether the applicability provisions for each tax and fees is ultimately construed to apply to LSES sales.

The Utilities are aware of no meaningful reductions in the costs of providing government services that would result from the proposed Initiative. Indeed, the displacement of their electric sales described above is likely to result in increased electric rates for all electric customers, including state and local governments.

ATTACHMENT I

Florida Power & Light Company Franchises

Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL" or "the company") is an investor-owned electric public utility company serving more than 4.7 million customers throughout much of eastern and southwestern Florida. The company pays franchise fees to the following 177 counties and municipalities pursuant to franchise agreement ordinances:

| Anna Maria | Davie | Hillsboro Beach | Malabar |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Arcadia | Daytona Beach | Holly Hill | Manalapan |
| Atlantis | Daytona Beach Shores | Hollywood | Mangonia Park |
| Baker - Uninc. | DeBary | Holmes Beach | Margate |
| Bal Harbour | Deerfield Beach | Hypoluxo | Marineland |
| Bay Harbor Islands | Delray Beach | Indialantic | Medley |
| Belle Glade | Deltona | Indian Creek | Melbourne |
| Beverly Beach | DeSoto - Uninc. | Indian Harbour Beach | Melbourne Beach |
| Biscayne Park | Edgewater | Indian River - Uninc. | Melbourne Village |
| Boca Raton | El Portal | Interlachen | Miami |
| Bonita Springs | Fellsmere | Jupiter | Miami Beach |
| Boynton Beach | Flagler Beach | Jupiter Inlet Colony | Miami Shores Village |
| Bradenton | Florida City | LaBeile | Miami Springs |
| Bradenton Beach | Fort Lauderdale | Lake Butler | Miami-Dade - |
| brademon beach | FULL Lauderdale | Lake Duder | Uninc.[17]* |
| Bradford - Uninc. | Fort Myers | Lake City | Miramar |
| Brevard - Uninc. | Glen Ridge | Lake Clarke Shores | Naples |
| Broward - Uninc. | Glen Saint Mary | Lake Mary | North Bay Village |
| Bunnell | Golden Beach | Lake Park | North Lauderdale |
| Callahan | Golf | Lantana | North Miami Beach |
| Cape Canaveral | Grant-Valkaria | Lauderdale Lakes | North Miami[2]* |
| Charlotte - Uninc. | Greenacres | Lauderdale-by-the- Sea | North Palm Beach |
| Cloud Lake | Gulf Stream | Lauderhill | North Port |
| Cocoa | Hallandale Beach | Lawtey | Oak Hill |
| Cocoa Beach | Hampton | Lazy Lake | Oakland Park |
| Coconut Creek | Hastings | Lee - Uninc. | Ocean Ridge |
| Cooper City | Haverhill | Lighthouse Point | Okeechobee |
| Coral Gables | Hialeah | Live Oak | Opa-locka |
| Coral Springs | Hialeah Gardens | Longboat Key/Parent | Ormond Beach |
| Crescent City | Highland Beach | Loxahatchee Groves | Oviedo |
| Dania Beach | Hilliard | Macclenny | Pahokee |

| Palatka | South Bay | *Miami-Dade Cnty Cities listed below: |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Palm Bay | South Daytona | Aventura |
| Palm Beach | South Miami/#1 Parent[2]* | Cutler Bay |
| Palm Beach - Uninc. | South Palm Beach | Doral |
| Palm Beach Gardens | Southwest Ranches | Key Biscayne |
| Palm Beach Shores | St. Augustine | Homestead |
| Palm Shores | St. Augustine Beach | Miami Gardens |
| Palm Springs | St. Lucie - Uninc. | Miami Lakes |
| Palmetto | Starke | Palmetto Bay |
| Pembroke Park | Stuart | Pinecrest |
| Pembroke Pines | Sunrise | Sunny Isles Beach |
| Penney Farms | Surfside | |
| Plantation | Sweetwater | |
| Pomona Park | Tamarac | |
| Pompano Beach | Tequesta | |
| Ponce Inlet | Titusville | |
| Port Orange | Venice | |
| Port St. Lucie | Virginia Gardens | |
| Punta Gorda | Waldo | |
| Raiford | Welaka | |
| Riviera Beach | Wellington | |
| Rockledge | West Melbourne | |
| Royal Palm Beach | West Miami | |
| Sanford | West Palm Beach | |
| Sarasota | West Park | |
| Sarasota - Uninc. | Weston | |
| Satellite Beach | Wilton Manors | |
| Sea Ranch Lakes | | |
| Sebastian | | , |
| Sewall's Point | | |

Duke Energy Florida Franchises

Duke Energy Florida ("DEF") is an investor-owned electric public utility company serving more than 1.7 million customers throughout much of western, central and northern Florida. DEF pays franchise fees to the following 123 counties and municipalities pursuant to franchise agreement ordinances:

| Alachua | Fort White | Oakland |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Altamonte Springs | Frostproof | Ocala |
| Apalachicola | Gilchrist County | Ocoee |
| Apopka | Groveland | Orange City |
| Archer | Gulfport | Orlando |
| Avon Park | Haines City | Oviedo |
| Bartow | High Springs | Perry |
| Belle Isle | Highland Park | Pierson |
| Belleair | Hillcrest Heights | Pinellas Park |
| Belleair Beach | Howey-In-The-Hills | Port Richey |
| Belleair Bluffs | Indian Rocks Beach | Port St Joe |
| Belleair Shore | Indian Shores | Reddick |
| Belleview | Inglis | Redington Beach |
| Bowling Green | Inverness | Redington Shores |
| Branford | Jasper | Safety Harbor |
| Bronson | Jennings | Sanford |
| Brooksville | Kenneth City | Sebring-SUC |
| Carrabelle | Lacrosse | Sebring |
| Casselberry | Lady Lake | Seminole |
| Center Hill | Lake Hamilton | So Pasadena |
| Chiefland | Lake Helen | Sopchoppy |
| Clearwater | Lake Mary | St. Marks |
| Clermont | Lake Placid | St. Pete Beach |
| Coleman | Lake Wales | St. Petersburg |
| Cross City | Largo | Tarpon Springs |
| Crystal River | Lee | Tavares |
| Davenport | Longwood | Treasure Island |
| Deland | Madeira Beach | Trenton |
| Deltona | Madison | Umatilla |
| Debary | Maitland | Wakulla County |
| Devlmpt Dist - Celebration | Mascotte | Webster |
| Devlmpt Dist - Enterprise | Mayo | White Springs |

| Dundee | Meintosh | Wildwood |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Dunedin | Mexico Beach | Windermere |
| Dunnellon | Micanopy | Winter Garden |
| Eatonville | Minneola | Winter Haven |
| Edgewood | Monticello | Winter Park |
| Eustis | Montverde | Winter Park Annexed |
| Eustis Manufacturing | Mt Dora | Winter Springs |
| Fanning Springs - Gilchrist | New Port Richey | Zephyrhills |
| Fanning Springs – Levy | No. Redington Beach | Zolfo Springs |

Gulf Power Company Franchises

Gulf Power Company ("Gulf") is an investor-owned electric public utility company serving more than 440,000 thousand customers throughout much of Northwest Florida. Gulf pays franchise fees to the following 32 counties and municipalities pursuant to franchise agreement ordinances:

| Chipley | Milton |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Vernon | Defuniak Springs |
| Graceville | Paxton |
| Campbellton | Ponce de Leon |
| Bonifay | Crestview |
| Caryville | Laurel Hill |
| Panama City | Niceville |
| Springfield | Valparaiso |
| Cedar Grove | Shalimar |
| Lynn Haven | Fort Walton Beach |
| Panama City Beach | Cinco Bayou |
| Parker | Mary Esther |
| Callaway | Destin |
| Pensacola | Escambia County |
| Century | Jackson County |
| Gulf Breeze | Santa Rosa County |

Tampa Electric Company Franchises

Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or "the company") is an investor-owned electric public utility company serving more than 706,000 customers in Hillsborough and portions of Polk, Pinellas and Pasco Counties in Florida. The company pays franchise fees to the following 13 municipalities pursuant to franchise agreement ordinances:

| Auburndale | Lake Alfred | Plant City | St. Leo |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Dade City | Mulberry | Polk City | Tampa |
| Eagle Lake | Oldsmar | San Antonio | Temple Terrace |
| Winter Haven | | | |