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April 11, 2023

Andrew G. Fay, Chairman
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Dear Chair Fay:

At the April 5, 2023, meeting of the Hillsborough County Commission, numerous residents spoke at public comment pertaining to the impact of increased electricity rates being experienced by Tampa Electric Company (TECO) customers.

The speakers expressed deep concern about the lack of an opportunity to provide meaningful public comment to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC), as deliberations and ultimate decisions on the petition are likely to be conducted in Tallahassee. This is a great distance from Hillsborough County, which may be a significant financial and logistical barrier to interested and affected individuals giving voice on a matter of importance. As you are aware, TECO is the exclusive energy provider to hundreds of thousands of rate payers, virtually all of them in Hillsborough County. Therefore, TECO's actions have a nearly exclusive and impactful effect on our community and its residents.

This Board voted to transmit this letter respectfully requesting that the FPSC hold meetings in Hillsborough County when any requests are made by TECO that may result in increased rates for customers in Hillsborough County to allow the local community an open and convenient opportunity to share their perspectives prior to any final decision being taken by FPSC.

We thank the FPSC for its positive consideration of this request in the name of accessibility and a meaningful opportunity for public input. Should you have any questions, or if we can be of assistance, please feel free to contact Brandon Wagner, Chief Government Relations & Strategic Services Administrator, at (813) 276-2640, or WagnerB@HCFLGov.net.

Sincerely,

Ken Hagan, Chair
Hillsborough County Commission

cc: Hillsborough County Commission
Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation
Commissioners, Florida Public Service Commission
Bonnie M. Wise, County Administrator
Christine M. Beck, County Attorney
Peggy Caskey, County Internal Auditor
Braulio L. Baez, Executive Director, Florida Public Service Commission