

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-217

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION ENCOURAGING THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO SET MEANINGFUL, IMPACTFUL, AND AMBITIOUS ENERGY EFFICIENCY GOALS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR UTILITIES UNDER ITS AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, City Commission has a strong commitment to sustainability and “green initiatives,” as evidenced through City Commission Resolutions and Ordinances, the City’s white paper on sea level rise, and the City’s long-term commitment to encouraging solar and other renewable energy use within the City; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 2017-160 the City Commission established a goal of 100-percent clean, renewable energy in the City of Coral Gables, and supported the establishment of that goal in communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, energy conservation and efficiency programs and policies can promote behavioral and operational changes for residents and businesses that can significantly reduce energy demand, support sustainable communities and promote environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, according to the *Energy Efficiency in the Southeast 2018 Annual Report* prepared by the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE), Florida’s largest utilities have trailed other utilities in the Southeast and throughout the nation, in generating and delivering energy savings to their customers; and

WHEREAS, according to said report, Florida is one of the worst performing states for utility energy efficiency in one of the lowest performing regions of the country, with a national average of energy efficiency five times higher than that of Florida, and with leading states like California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont achieving between 15 and 25 times more annual energy savings for their customers than is captured in Florida; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, Florida has ranked 36th in per-capita spending on electric efficiency projects, and has ranked 23rd overall in energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, reducing the growth of peak electric demand and energy consumption became a statutory objective in Florida in 1980 with the enactment of the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA); and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the Florida Legislature enacted a number of important changes to the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act including establishing goals for demand-side renewable energy resources, and in 2009, the Florida Public Service Commission followed suit and approved aggressive new goals and an expanded program for Florida’s major utilities; and

WHEREAS, FEECA focuses on four areas: reducing the growth of weather-sensitive peak demand and electricity usage; increasing the efficiency of electricity and natural gas production and use; encouraging demand-side renewable energy systems; and conserving expensive resources; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission is required under FEECA to review and establish goals for FEECA utilities and to review those goals every five years; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission is scheduled to hold FEECA proceedings later this summer including public input, with the opportunity for Florida to review, reset, and improve the energy conservation goals and requirements for the state’s largest utilities; and

WHEREAS, improved conservation goals and requirements will generally lead to more robust energy efficiency programs and options directed at residential and commercial customers which can reduce energy usage and provide economic and environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission should establish meaningful, impactful, and ambitious energy efficiency goals and requirements for utilities in Florida under the jurisdiction of FEECA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing “**WHEREAS**” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission hereby urges the Florida Public Service Commission to set meaningful, impactful, cost-effective, and conservation conscious goals.

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk is directed to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the chairperson, members, and executive directors of the Florida Public Service Commission.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS NINTH DAY OF JULY, A.D., 2019.

(Moved: Lago / Seconded: Keon)

(Yeas: Mena, Fors Jr., Keon, Lago, Valdes-Fauli)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

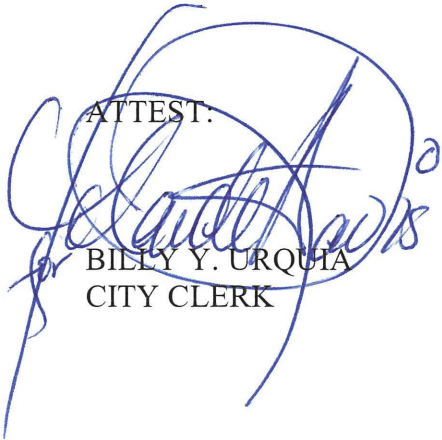
(Agenda Item: G-5)

APPROVED:



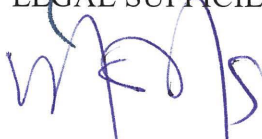
RAUL VALDES-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:



BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY