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Ryan Sweeney  
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Indian River County  
1801 27<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960



RE: Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL") – Proposed Overhead 230 kV Transmission Line

Please accept this transmittal as FPL's Section 303.28 notice of the proposed 230 kilovolt ("kV") transmission route connecting the proposed Indian River Solar Energy Center to the proposed Heritage Substation and subsequently, a proposed connection from the Heritage Substation to the existing FPL Malabar-Midway 230 kV transmission line.

Attached herewith is a plan depicting the proposed location of the route, overhead clearances, locations of current and future road / right of way alignments, and other information required by the County. FPL has secured easements from private landowners as well as conceptual approval for easements and/or crossings from both the St. John's Improvement District and the Indian River Farms Water Control District which covers the entirety of this proposed transmission alignment.

Please note that, pursuant to Section 380.04(3)(b), Florida Statutes, work by any utility engaged in the distribution or transmission of electricity for the purpose of inspecting, repairing, renewing or constructing on established rights-of way any pipes, cables, utility tunnels, power lines, towers, poles, tracks, or the like is exempt from the statutory definition of "development", and is therefore not subject to any local government development permit. This includes any building permit, zoning permit, subdivision approval, rezoning, certification, special exception, variance, or any other official action of local government having the effect of permitting development of land under Chapter 163, Florida Statutes.

With specific regard to the Section 303.28, FPL respectfully requests that the conduct of a public informational meeting not be required. As proposed, and as provided in the attached plan, the proposed route would traverse private lands and existing rights-of-way. Additionally, the proposed alignment lies a significant distance from any nearby residence, eliminating any negative impacts to the public resulting from the proposed transmission line.

Furthermore, FPL has already undertaken a significant public outreach effort related to the two solar energy centers in this area of which this proposed transmission line is an integral part. On January 26, 2017, FPL hosted an open house for members of the public at the Indian River County Intergenerational Center. We have also met on numerous occasions with members of the St. John's Improvement District Board as well as its staff, and the majority of the landowning entities in the vicinity of the proposed alignment during our pursuit of the required easements and rights-of-way necessary for the transmission line. Finally, information about both of the proposed solar energy centers and this transmission line is available via public websites and fact sheets that FPL were mailed to all adjacent landowners. Accordingly, FPL asserts that the incremental cost and schedule impacts resulting from an additional public informational meeting requirement are unnecessary.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David S. Knight, P.E.