

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

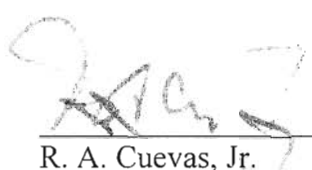
DATE: February 5, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Public Service Commission to
adopt final rules that will
encourage the use of consumer-
owned solar and other
renewable energy systems
through net metering

Resolution R-133-08

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Katy Sorenson, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls

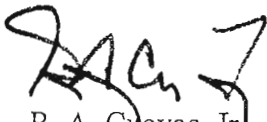


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)
02-05-08

RESOLUTION NO. **R-133-08**

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO ADOPT FINAL RULES THAT WILL ENCOURAGE THE USE OF CONSUMER-OWNED SOLAR AND OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS THROUGH NET METERING AND BY FACILITATING THE INTERCONNECTION BETWEEN SUCH SYSTEMS AND ELECTRIC UTILITIES

WHEREAS, net metering allows consumers to offset some of the cost of electricity they buy from a utility by selling back to the utility at a retail rate electric power that solar and other renewable energy systems have generated; and

WHEREAS, because consumers buy and sell power at the same rate through net metering, the utility bill is calculated only on the net electricity that the consumer purchases from the utility; and

WHEREAS, statewide net metering laws are currently in place in 38 States; and

WHEREAS, net metering programs offer the potential for individuals and businesses to realize financial benefits from installing renewable energy systems; and

WHEREAS, five utilities in Florida currently offer net metering to their customers: Florida Keys Electric Cooperative, JEA (Jacksonville), Lakeland Electric, New Smyrna Beach Utilities, and the City of Tallahassee Electric Utility; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, all utility regulatory authorities and non-regulated utility must consider offering interconnection to the power grid and net metering upon request; and

WHEREAS, the energy needs of Florida continue to grow at a rapid rate, and solar energy provides a clean and safe renewable energy option to our residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2007, Florida's Public Service Commission voted to propose amendments to the administrative rules governing utilities that would require all utilities in Florida to offer net metering; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments also would (i) expand the types of eligible systems from only solar to all renewable technology systems, (ii) substantially increase the size of renewable energy systems eligible to sell electricity to utilities from 10 kilowatts to 2 megawatts, and (iii) facilitate and expedite the interconnection between consumer-owned renewable energy systems and electric utilities; and

WHEREAS, if adopted in final form, these amendments would promote the development of consumer-owned solar and other renewable energy systems, which in turn will improve conservation, diversify the types of fuel used to generate electricity in Florida, protect the environment, and stimulate the state's economy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Florida Public Service Commission to adopt final rules that will encourage the use of consumer-owned solar and other renewable energy systems through net metering and by facilitating the interconnection between such systems and electric utilities.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chair and Members of the Public Service Commission, with copies to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the adoption of the final rules set forth in Section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2008 State Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Katy Sorenson, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, and offered by Commissioner **Joe A. Martinez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman	aye
	Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman	absent
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Audrey M. Edmonson aye
Carlos A. Gimenez	aye	Sally A. Heyman aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye	Dennis C. Moss absent
Dorrin D. Rolle	aye	Natacha Seijas absent
Katy Sorenson	aye	Rebeca Sosa aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of February, 2008. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Kay Sullivan**
Deputy Clerk



JMM

Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Jess M. McCarty