

Office of Facilities Design and Construction
Raul F. Perez, Chief Facilities Design & Construction Officer

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SUBJECT: ENROLL IN FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT'S SOLAR TOGETHER PROGRAM TO PROVIDE 45% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY TO THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: EFFECTIVE & SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL PRACTICES

As part of the School Board's sustainability initiatives and in keeping with the mission of The 2030 Clean Energy Task Force for achieving 100% clean energy by 2030, as proffered in agenda item H-3 at the April 21, 2021 School Board meeting by Board Member Ms. Luisa Santos which was unanimously sponsored and approved by the Board, and agenda item H-14 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Energy Cost Containment Program proffered by Board Chair Maria Teresa Rojas and unanimously sponsored and approved at the August 9, 2017 School Board meeting, enrolling in Florida Power & Light's (FPL) Solar Together program will increase the amount of clean energy consumed by the School District and reduce energy costs.

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FPL designed Solar Together to give their customers an opportunity to benefit from Florida-based solar energy without having to purchase and install solar panels directly on their property. Through participation in this program, maintenance, operational and any additional insurance costs that may be affiliated with the installation of an on-site solar panel system are borne by FPL. FPL benefits from this symbiotic relationship by expanding their solar capacity at a quicker rate to meet their sustainability goals.

Solar Together has become a popular program in Florida. In spring 2021, Miami-Dade County enrolled in Solar Together and their subscription size makes up half of their Water and Sewer Department's electricity consumption. As one of FPL's largest customers, who has paid \$65,092,884 for electricity in FY 2022 alone, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) now has the opportunity to join the subscription program and provide renewable electricity for 45% of M-DCPS' total electricity consumption.

To participate, M-DCPS would subscribe to the program by paying a fixed monthly subscription charge and receive monthly bill credits for their share of the solar energy generated. Since overtime, the accumulated energy generated increases. The credits increase as well. As the credits increase, this will lower the monthly electric bill.

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It is well known that solar energy is an intermittent source that depends on the sun to generate power. To minimize risks for those days of low sunshine, the total subscription is being divided into two “projects” or locations that will generate a total of 299,791,290 kWh or 45% of M-DCPS’ total FPL electricity consumption. The two locations will assist one another to ensure that optimal power is being generated despite days of low sunshine. The program period spans for a total duration of 30 years with an option to cancel at any time.

Through this subscription, FPL would retire Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) on M-DCPS’ behalf. This certifies that the renewable electricity is being provided to M-DCPS and advances the District’s initiatives towards cleaner energy. There are financial benefits to this program as well. Through advanced weather and energy modeling, it is expected that the District will reach net zero cost by subscription year 7. In addition, at a Net Present Value (NPV) at 7%, total return to the District for this program is \$12,921,953.67.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, subscribe to Florida Power & Light’s Solar Together program to provide the District with 45% renewable electricity.

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