MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members

From: Staff

Date: October 21, 2011 Council Meeting

Subject: Overview of Florida’s Regulatory Environment - Presentation by Eduardo E. Balbis, Commissioner, Florida Public Service Commission

Introduction

The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) exercises regulatory authority over utilities offering electric, natural gas, telephone, water, and wastewater services in Florida. The PSC mission is to ensure that Florida's consumers receive these essential services in a safe, affordable, and reliable manner. The PSC provides regulation in one or more of three key areas: rate base/economic regulation; competitive market oversight; and monitoring of safety, reliability, and service issues. During 2010, the PSC regulated five investor-owned electric companies, seven investor-owned natural gas utilities, and more than 150 investor-owned water and/or wastewater utilities. The PSC also had competitive market oversight for more than 945 telecommunications companies in Florida.

Commissioner Eduardo E. Balbis was appointed by Governor Charlie Crist to the Florida Public Service Commission in November 2010, and was reappointed by Governor Rick Scott to serve a four-year term through January 1, 2015. Prior to serving on the PSC, Commissioner Balbis was the Assistant City Administrator for the City of West Palm Beach, where he managed the Public Utilities, Public Works, and Engineering Departments. Commissioner Balbis previously served as Chairman of the Board of the East Central Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility, and served as a gubernatorial appointee on the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

Recommendation

For informational purposes only.