

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

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June 7, 2018

Lauren M. Temento
Staff Attorney
Louisiana Public Service Commission
602 North Fifth Street, 12th Fl.
Galvez Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Re: Docket No. TBD: In Re: Solicitation for under \$50,000 bid to assist Staff in Reviewing Cleco Power, LLC's upcoming application for renewal of blanket financing authorization.

Dear Ms. Temento:

J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc. ("Kennedy and Associates") is pleased to respond to your letter dated June 5, 2018 seeking a proposed budget for our firm to assist the Louisiana Public Service Commission Staff ("Commission" and "Staff") in its review of Cleco Power LLC's ("Cleco" or "Company") Application to renew and extend the Blanket Financing Authorization initially approved in Order No. U-28765-A, and extended in Order Nos. U-31299 and S-33218, as well as the review of any letter-notices filed by Cleco during the proposed four-year term of the renewed authorization.

Kennedy and Associates is uniquely qualified to assist the Staff in these reviews due to our work for the Commission in Docket No. S-33218 and on other Cleco financing issues and matters. We will work closely with the Commission's Legal, Auditing, and Economic Divisions in the review of Cleco's Application when it is filed, as well as the review of letter-notices as they are filed by Cleco over the next four years should the Commission authorize the Company's request.

Kennedy and Associates proposes a budget for consulting services of \$36,800 and a budget for expenses of \$700, for a total budget of \$37,500. Our services will be billed based on our standard billing rates, which are attached to this letter. We will charge only for actual hours worked and actual expenses incurred. Furthermore, we acknowledge that any expenses charged will be within the Commission's standard expense allowances.

We will not bill in excess of these services and expense budgets based on the scope of work outlined. The scope of work outlined does not include services related to extraordinary and special debt offerings, such as storm damage securitization financings, and does not include short-term debt issuances or draws on Cleco's revolving credit agreement. This is consistent with the scope of the blanket financing authorization sought in this proceeding and presently authorized in Order S-33218.

Kennedy and Associates is prepared to begin work on this project immediately upon being retained by the Commission. We already are familiar with the Commission's Orders in Docket Nos. U-28765-A, U-31299, and S-33218, setting forth the authorization and parameters for the

present blanket financing. In addition, we are familiar with the letter-notices filed by Cleco in the prior dockets and the reviews that were performed by the Staff pursuant to the present blanket financing authorization.


In accordance with the scope of work outlined in your letter, we will perform all necessary steps to bring this matter before the Commission, including, but not limited to, the following: review the Company's application and supporting documentation; review the prior authorizations granted; prepare and review data requests and responses; prepare for filing any required memoranda; prepare a report and/or pre-filed testimony in support of the Staff's recommendations, together with exhibits supporting report and/or pre-filed testimony.

We understand the scope of the work will continue through a Commission vote on Staff's Recommendation. If the Commission renews the authorization as Cleco requests, then the letter-notice filings and the Staff reviews will follow a similar expedited filing and review process. We anticipate that the Company and Staff will work together in a collaborative process and that this process will lead to a Staff letter of non-opposition rather than testimony and litigation, consistent with the process and experience under the present authorization. We will perform all necessary steps to review notice filings for future debt issuances that would be covered by the blanket financing authorization, including but not limited to the following: prepare and review data requests and responses, prepare a report or letter of non-opposition in support of Staff's ultimate recommendation; and review any follow-up documentation provided by the Company.

Kennedy and Associates has no known conflicts of interest in representing the Louisiana Public Service Commission in this proceeding and none of the Project Team members presently represent other clients before the Commission. Kennedy and Associates does not represent investor-owned gas or electric utilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lane Kollen,
Vice-President

LK:ji

Attachments: LPSC Hourly Fee Schedule

J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc.
2018 Hourly Fee Schedule
Louisiana Public Service Commission

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
President	Stephen J. Baron	\$263
Vice President	Lane Kollen	\$263
Vice President	Philip Hayet	\$263
Director	Richard A. Baudino	\$252
Director	Brian R. Barber	\$252
Manager	Randy Futral	\$252
Senior Consultant	Ann Bruccoliere	\$195
Senior Consultant	Leah Justin Wellborn	\$195
Consultant	Brian Kollen	\$155
Analyst	Jessica Inman	\$115
