



Everglades Coalition

1000 Friends of Florida
 Arthur R. Marshall Foundation
 Audubon Florida
 Audubon of Southwest Florida
 Audubon of the Western Everglades
 Audubon Society of the Everglades
 Backcountry Fly Fishers of Naples
 Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association/
 Riverwatch
 Center for Biological Diversity
 Clean Water Action
 Conservancy of Southwest Florida
 Defenders of Wildlife
 "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society
 Earthjustice
 Environment Florida
 Everglades Foundation
 Everglades Law Center
 Everglades Trust
 Florida Conservation Voters Education Fund
 Florida Defenders of the Environment
 Florida Keys Environmental Fund
 Florida Native Plant Society
 Florida Oceanographic Society
 Friends of the Arthur R. Marshall
 Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
 Friends of the Everglades
 Hendry-Glades Audubon Society
 International Dark-Sky Association,
 FL Chapter
 Izaak Walton League of America
 Izaak Walton League Florida Division
 Izaak Walton League Florida Keys Chapter
 Izaak Walton League Mangrove Chapter
 Last Stand
 League of Women Voters of Florida
 Loxahatchee River Coalition
 Martin County Conservation Alliance
 Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition
 Miami Waterkeeper
 National Audubon Society
 National Parks Conservation Association
 National Wildlife Refuge Association
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 North Carolina Outward Bound School
 Ocean Research & Conservation Association
 Reef Relief
 Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
 Save It Now. Glades!
 Sierra Club
 Sierra Club Florida Chapter
 Sierra Club Broward Group
 Sierra Club Calusa Group
 Sierra Club Central Florida Group
 Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group
 Sierra Club Miami Group
 Snook and Gamefish Foundation
 South Florida Audubon Society
 Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
 The Florida Wildlife Federation
 The Institute for Regional Conservation
 The National Wildlife Federation
 The Urban Environment League of
 Greater Miami
 Tropical Audubon Society

A RESOLUTION BY THE EVERGLADES COALITION TO OPPOSE AMENDMENT 1 ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER.

WHEREAS, solar photovoltaic energy offers many potential benefits, including lower electricity costs for homeowners, businesses, and governments; local jobs and economic development; reduced dependence on imported fuels; pollution-free electricity generation; no water use during power production; and contribution to a more resilient electric grid; and

WHEREAS, Florida has the greatest potential for rooftop solar power of any state in the eastern United States. Yet, with 9 million electric utility customer accounts, Florida has less than 12,000 customer-sited solar systems.¹ By comparison, New Jersey has over 43,000 customer-sited solar systems² but only half the population of Florida and a weaker solar resource; and

WHEREAS, increased solar-generated electricity, including customer-sited systems on residential and commercial properties, will be a key strategy for achieving this community-wide goal; and

WHEREAS, "net metering" is a state policy that allows the families and businesses to generate their own solar power and send any excess power back to the utilities grid; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 1, entitled "Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice," will be presented to voters at the November 8, 2016, and sponsored by an organization called *Consumers for Smart Solar*; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 1 purports to provide a new "choice," for solar power in its title, but no new solar rights are provided, while placing critical restrictions on existing solar rights in the Florida Constitution, according to Florida Supreme Court

¹ Florida Public Service Commission, *Reporting Requirements for Interconnection and Net Metering, Customer-owned Renewable Generation*, at:

<http://www.psc.state.fl.us/Files/PDF/Utilities/Electricgas/CustomerRenewable/2015/2015%20Net%20Metering%20Summary%20Spreadsheet/2015%20Net%20Metering%20Chart.pdf>

² New Jersey Clean Energy Program, at: <http://www.njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/project-activity-reports/installation-summary-by-technology/solar-installation-projects>

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

Justice Barbara Pariente in her dissent in an Advisory Opinion to the Attorney General on Amendment 1³;

WHEREAS, Amendment 1 will insert in the Florida Constitution an unsupported presumption that solar rooftop customers are “subsidized” by non-solar customers⁴ and that such an argument can be used to weaken or eliminate the state’s net metering policy; and

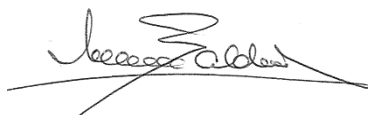
WHEREAS, *Consumers for Smart Solar* is primarily bankrolled by the state’s big power companies⁵ that oppose current net metering policy⁶;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EVERGLADES COALITION: The **EVERGLADES COALITION** hereby opposes Amendment 1 on the November Ballot and it shall publicize the COALITION’s opinion to the general public.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by The Everglades Coalition assembled this 14 day of October, 2016.

Cara Capp

Cara Capp
National Co-Chair



Michael J. Baldwin
State Co-Chair

³ Florida Supreme Court, Case No. 25-150, at: https://efactssc-public.flcourts.org/casedocuments/2015/2150/2015-2150_disposition_134770.pdf

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Division of Elections, Committee Tracking System, Consumers for Smart Solar at: <http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/committees/ComDetail.asp?account=64817><http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/committees/ComDetail.asp?account=64817>

⁶ Florida Public Service Commission, Response by FPL to Request for Comments on Solar Policy, at: <http://www.psc.state.fl.us/Files/PDF/Utilities/Electricgas/SolarEnergy//Florida%20Power%20and%20Light.pdf>

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