



Florida Energy Affordability Coalition (FLEAC) Coalition Charter (revised April 26th, 2007)

Our Challenge

The availability of affordable energy is an urgent public policy matter, and the growing need for energy assistance far outpaces available assistance funding.

Energy prices have risen such that increasing numbers of low-to-moderate income households are unable to afford their energy bills. Too many households face the choice between paying home energy bills and affording other basic necessities such as prescription drugs, housing, child care or food.

The current situation puts a severe strain on energy customers, the agencies that provide assistance and the energy providers. This situation will lead to escalating customer problems, including payment failures and service disconnections.

A collaboration of the stake holders - including representatives of the low-to-moderate income customer, government, social service agencies and energy providers - is needed to find better ways to assist those in need. The time is right for a statewide coordinated effort to help low-to-moderate income Floridians secure the energy necessary for core life needs.

Our Mission

The **Florida Energy Affordability Coalition (FLEAC)** brings together public, private and nonprofit sector organizations seeking to make energy more affordable for low-to-moderate income Floridians. FLEAC wants to facilitate assistance to improve the well being of families experiencing difficulty paying for energy needed to maintain a safe and healthy living environment.

FLEAC Goals:

- **Understand and assess needs** related to energy affordability, security and assistance for low-to-moderate income families
- **Expand assistance** by seeking immediate and long-term solutions to reduce the energy burden
- **Encourage personal responsibility** by supporting weatherization, energy conservation and energy education programs that assist households in managing their energy costs
- **Develop public and private partnerships** in a cooperative approach to maximize, leverage and coordinate resources on behalf of low-to-moderate income Floridians
- **Endorse public policies** that help increase the energy security of low-to-moderate income Floridians
- **Communicate the realities** of the energy affordability challenges



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Foundational Themes

The Coalition will recommend, endorse and facilitate policies, procedures and actions that support:

- Customers’ health, safety and well-being
- Maximizing available financial and energy conservation assistance
- Quality service to customers seeking assistance
- Educating customers to make informed decisions regarding energy usage and conservation
- Reducing (minimizing) service disconnects
- Those who serve customers (i.e., service providers, case workers, those on the “front line”)
- Awareness regarding other unmet needs of customers.

Charter Partners

The following organizations have pledged their commitment to making FLEAC a success by approving this charter and working in harmony toward the common goal of energy affordability.

- Florida Council on Aging (FCOA)
- Florida Association for Community Action (FACA)
- Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging (FL AAAA)
- Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA)
- Florida Electric Cooperatives Association (FECA)
- Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA)
- Florida Power & Light Company (FPL)
- Florida Public Service Commission (permanent advisory partner)
- Gulf Power Company
- Progress Energy Florida (PEF)
- The Salvation Army
- Tampa Electric Company (TECO)

Charter Partner Commitment

I am authorized to confirm our organization’s commitment to participating in and working for the success of FLEAC and its mission to make energy more affordable for low-to-moderate income Floridians.

Organization Rep. (print name)

Organization Rep. (signature)

Organization Rep (Title)

FLEAC Rep. (signature)

FLEAC Charter Partner Org. Name

Date