



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 IN SUPPORT OF PRO-SOLAR AMENDMENT 4 AND LOWERING COSTS FOR SOLAR ENERGY

WHEREAS, the Everglades ecosystem has competing demands for water, including from the power sector, and water quality and quantity are critical for Everglades restoration;

WHEREAS, Unlike conventional power generation, solar power generates electricity with zero air emissions and no water use, thereby moving the county, state, and country to a cleaner and more sustainable energy future;

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 only approximately 11,600 customer-sited solar systems.¹ By comparison, New Jersey has over 43,000 customer-sited solar systems² but only half the population of Florida;

WHEREAS, The Florida tangible personal property tax is a tax on non-real estate property and has the effect of significantly increasing the cost of solar power on many solar systems. Lowering the cost of solar power improves the economic benefit of solar power and can lead to significantly more solar development;

WHEREAS, Amendment 4, entitled “Solar Devices or Renewable Energy Source Devices; Exemption from Certain Taxation and Assessment,” will be presented to voters at the August 30, 2016, election as result of the unanimous passage of House Joint Resolution 193 by both the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Senate on March 9, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 4 exempts renewable energy source devices, including solar systems from the tangible personal property tax for a 20 year period, and additionally excludes the value of a renewable energy source device, including solar systems from being considered in the assessed value of real property.

Committed to full protection and restoration of America’s Everglades

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Everglades Coalition, with its 61 member organizations committed to the full protection and restoration of America's Everglades, hereby supports lowering solar energy costs and additionally supports Amendment 4 on the August primary ballot.

Adopted June 17th, 2016

Cara Capp

Cara Capp
National Co-Chair



Michael J. Baldwin
State Co-Chair

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's Clean Energy Program, at: <http://www.njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/home/home>

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