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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Miami Beach Passes Resolution to Oppose Solar Amendment — Amendment 1 would create barriers for solar development —

Miami Beach, FL – The City of Miami Beach Commission unanimously passed a resolution opposing Florida Amendment 1 (2016) on the basis that it would constitutionalize barriers against consumers who desire to own or lease solar energy equipment.

Under the guise of “protecting consumer rights,” Amendment 1 would elevate the existing rights of lawmakers to further regulate solar energy use and establish that regulatory power as a constitutional right in Florida, creating barriers for solar development.

“Amendment 1 was placed on our ballot by big utility companies wanting to control the energy market,” warned Miami Beach City Commissioner John Elizabeth Alemán. “Please vote no so that Miami Beach can add solar infrastructure into our sustainability and resilience initiatives.”

The State of Florida alone spends approximately \$58 billion each year buying carbon-based fuels from other states and countries to power local homes, businesses and cars. Solar power would keep energy dollars here at home and create well-paying local jobs. Supporting policies that encourage solar will help lowering the cost of solar power and consequently lead to significantly more solar energy development.

On July 20, 2016, the Miami Beach City Commission adopted a resolution supporting Florida Amendment 4 (2016), entitled “Solar Devices or Renewable Energy Source Devices, Exemption from Certain Taxation and Assessment”, in an effort to support tax reductions on solar energy equipment and promote the use of solar energy in Florida. Allowing non-utility solar providers to deliver solar generated electricity directly to customers through a Power Purchase Agreement (“PPA”) can remove the upfront cost for solar power systems to

homeowners and expand solar power options to residential and commercial tenants, thus expanding the choice for solar power to all Floridians.

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