Monday, February 17, 2020

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2553
Presented by Michele T. Wheeler, Vice President, Regulatory & Political Affairs
NextEra Energy Resources

Members of the House Committee on Taxation,

I would like to express our support of House Bill 2553 and encourage the Kansas Legislature to decouple from the key provisions of the tax cuts and jobs act which were implemented to buy down the corporate income tax rate at the federal level.

Conforming to these recent changes by not passing legislation in Kansas is a tax increase on businesses which have chosen to invest here. That tax increase would be a result of a change in provisions at the federal level which were created to broaden the income tax base, such as an interest expense limitation (IRC 163(j)) among others, and to transition to a territorial tax regime, such as Global Intangible Low Taxed Income (GILTI). At the federal level, these provisions, among others, were used to pay for a 40% tax rate cut. In Kansas, no such rate cut is being proposed, thus conforming to these federal changes results in a significant tax increase.

Through 2019, 17 states do not conform to the IRC §163(j) interest expense limitation either by specifically decoupling or not conforming to the current IRC. Twenty-two states have elected not to tax either 100% or 95% of foreign income under GILTI. More states are expected to address the TCJA impact during their 2020 session and several states have issued guidance through their department of revenue that this income will not be subject to state income tax.

We agree that decoupling from key provisions of TCJA as proposed by the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and the business community at large is good tax policy and support those efforts. However, due to the capital intensive nature of our business, most important of these to NextEra is decoupling from the interest expense limitation of IRC §163(j).

We ask that this committee support House Bill 2553 to avoid establishing a new tax liability on income tax provisions which were intended to make America more competitive, not to create a higher tax burden at the state level.

ABOUT OUR COMPANY

NextEra Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NEE) is a leading clean energy company headquartered in Juno Beach, Florida. NextEra Energy owns two electric companies in Florida: Florida Power & Light Company, which serves more than 5 million customer accounts in Florida and is the largest rate-regulated electric utility in the United States as measured by retail electricity produced and sold; and Gulf Power Company, which serves approximately 470,000 customers in eight counties throughout northwest Florida. NextEra Energy also owns a competitive energy business, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, which, together with its affiliated entities, is the world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and sun and a world leader in battery storage. Through its subsidiaries, NextEra Energy generates clean, emissions-free electricity from eight commercial nuclear power units in Florida, New Hampshire, Iowa and Wisconsin. A Fortune 200 company and included in the S&P 100 index, NextEra Energy has been recognized often by third parties for its efforts in sustainability, corporate responsibility, ethics and compliance, and diversity. NextEra Energy is ranked No. 1 in the electric and gas utilities industry on Fortune's 2020 list of "World's Most Admired Companies" and ranked among the top 25 on Fortune's 2018 list of companies that

NextEra Energy Resources, LLC

700 Universe Boulevard, Juno Beach, FL 33408

In Kansas, NEER owns and operates seven wind generation facilities with generating capacity of approximately 1234 MW of electric energy, representing approximately $1.8 billion dollars of capital investment in the state, along with one wind generation facility under development that represents another 300 MW of clean electric generation.

Sincerely,

NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES, LLC.

Michele T. Wheeler
Vice President Regulatory & Political Affairs

MTW/lf