Commissioners, the next item on our agenda is a request seeking approval for funding of outside litigation counsel support.

As you know, on January 9, OUC was served with a proposed class action lawsuit that contains some very serious allegations about the Stanton Energy Center’s environmental record and its impact on the health and wellbeing of our community.

For almost 100 years we have been committed to providing essential services to the Central Florida community.

Because this is pending litigation and we are just beginning to evaluate the allegations contained in the lawsuit, I am unable to discuss them in detail at this time.

However, I would like you, and our community, to know this:

- We take these allegations very seriously.
- We recognize that this is causing concern among some of our neighbors and our employees. We understand the stress these allegations may be causing for anyone living near the plant or working here at OUC.
- But please know, we strongly disagree with these allegations and we will vigorously defend OUC.

As you know, the Stanton Energy Center operates under strict federal, state and local rules.

The proposed class action lawsuit served on us includes a range of detailed allegations. It will take considerable time and effort to address.

Thank you.