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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FLORIDA VENTURE FORUM ADDS FPL TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Florida's largest energy company is the latest to join Florida's leading venture capital organization

MIAMI & TAMPA, Fla – December 18, 2020 – Florida Venture Forum, the leading statewide support and member organization for venture investors and entrepreneurs, today announced that Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), the largest energy company in the United States as measured by retail electricity produced and sold, has been appointed to its board of directors.

Pam Rauch, FPL vice president of external affairs and economic development, will serve as board representative, and Crystal Stiles, senior director of economic development, will serve as board alternate.

“We are extremely excited to welcome Pam, Crystal and FPL to an already strong board,” said Travis Milks, managing partner of Topmark Partners and 2020-2021 Florida Venture Forum board chair. “The Forum’s strength lies in its strong membership comprised of the most active players in technology and innovation; adding one of Florida’s largest and most respected companies to our membership is a major win for the organization, and for Florida.”

Rauch added, “FPL has been a longtime supporter and admirer of the Florida Venture Forum and its unrivaled contributions to Florida’s technology and innovation ecosystem. As a company we have also made a major commitment to Florida’s innovation ecosystem, so increasing our involvement with the Forum makes perfect sense. Crystal and I are excited to work with some of our state’s brightest founders, investors, and other members of the innovation ecosystem to expand on the strong momentum we have created together.”

Florida Venture Forum board members work to promote the organization’s mission to help entrepreneurs obtain funding through education, strategic partnerships, and networking opportunities.

“The Florida Venture Forum has over 36 years of success connecting growing Florida companies with capital sources and services, and our single greatest strength in this effort is the collective commitment of our members,” said Kevin Burgoyne, president and CEO of the Florida Venture

Forum. “We welcome FPL, and Pam and Crystal, to the board and look forward to working together to serve growing companies and their founders.”

About the Florida Venture Forum: The Florida Venture Forum is Florida’s largest statewide support organization for investors and entrepreneurs, helping companies with headquarters, operations or supply chain in Florida connect with sources of capital from across the country. Since 1984 over 1400 companies have presented at Forum events and have gone on to raise upwards of \$8B in equity capital and contribute well over \$10B in total economic value to Florida. The Forum’s 200+ members represent a “who’s who” of venture capital and private equity dealmakers, including and equity and debt investors at all stages, as well as major law, accounting, and investment banking firms, and large corporates active in the innovation ecosystem. The Forum provides programs and programming statewide throughout the year in addition to hosting major annual conferences like the Florida Venture Capital Conference, the Statewide Collegiate Startup Competition, the Early Stage Capital Conference, and industry-focused events including aerospace and healthcare. For more information, visit: <http://www.flventure.org>.

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