

February 1, 2023

To whom it may concern,

*After several years and many meetings, Santee Cooper has finally delivered a new rate package for Plantation Lakes' outdoor lighting program.*

*Bob Sweet's work on behalf of all of us is beyond commendable. Bob's countless hours of research and traveling to Columbia for meetings is why we are being offered some relief.*

*As many of you may know, South Carolina is unique when it comes to Santee Cooper. We own the utility. If that was not the case, and we were customers of Duke Energy or Progress Energy for example, this reduced rate would not have been negotiated. Because all of us are not only customers of Santee Cooper but also owners, we were able to apply pressure to the utility and ultimately receive this offer.*

*The lighting program we are currently a part of was not chosen by an HOA or any homeowner. It was forced on us by the developer who chose the program and effectively forced all of us into paying for this perpetual "lease."*

*I believe the offer before you is the best way to go. The good thing about Santee Cooper administering our lighting program is they are accountable not only to us as customers, but also to legislative oversight.*

*The savings at both the 27-month and ten-year point is substantial. To be honest, I was not expecting Santee Cooper to budge much at all, because legally they did not have to adjust the rate at all.*

*I fully support the Board of Director's decision to implement this plan, and again applaud Bob's dedication and hard work to save us thousands of dollars.*

*Sincerely,  
Rep. Tim McGinnis*