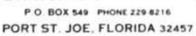
ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.







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STH ____

February 3, 1998

Blanco S Bayo, Director Division of Record and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Fl. 32399-0850

Docket No. 980003-GU Purchased Gas Cost Recovery for period ending March 31, 1999

Dear Ms. Bayo,

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docket are an original and ten (10) copies of St. Joe Natural Gas Compang's;

1. Prehearing Statement

2. Certificate of Service

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the property of this letter which is also acknowledge. extra copy of this letter which is also enclosed.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

ACK		KuayMory
AFA Wander		Stuart L. Shoa
		President
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Enc	losures	
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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Purchased Gas Recovery)	Docket No. 980003-GU Submitted for filing	
		_)	February 3, 1998

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY'S PREHEARING STATEMENT

St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. (SJNG) by and through its undersigned officer, hereby submits its Prehearing Statement to be taken up at the Hearing set to begin February 25, 1998 in the above listed docket.

A. APPEARANCES:

None; Stuart L. Shoaf has substituted prepared testimony which should be inserted into the record as if read.

B. WITNESSES:

Witness	Subject Matter	Issues
Stuart L Shoaf	Fuel Adjustment,	A11
	true up and projections	

C. EXHIBITS:

Exhibit No.	Witness	Description
(SLS-1) E-1	Stuart Shoaf	PGA Summary of estimates for the projected period.
(SLS-2) E-2	Stuart Shoaf	Calculation of true-up amount current period (8 months actual 4 months estimated)
(SLS-3) E-3	Stuart Shoaf	Transportation purchases system supply and end use for the projected period

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St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. Docket No. 980003-GU February 3, 1998 Page 2

Exhibit No.	Witness	Description
(SLS-4) E-4	Shoaf	Calculation of true-up amount for the projected period based on the prior period and current period (8 months actual, 4 months estimated)
(SLS-5) E-5	Shoaf	Therms Sales and Customer Data (For the pro- jected period)
(SLS-6) E-1/R	Shoaf	Reprojected PGA for Current Period (8mths, 4 mths est.)

D. STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION:

The appropriate over (under) recovery amounts and purchased gas adjustment factors are shown in the company's positions on Issues 1 - 5.

E. STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND POSITIONS:

ISSUE 1: What is the appropriated final purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period April, 1996 through March, 1997?

SJNG's Position: \$20,240 overrecovery.

Issue #2: What is the estimated purchased gas adjustment true-up
amount for the period of April 1997 through March 1998?
SJNG's Position: \$6,762.00 underrecovery.

St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. Docket No. 980003-GU February 3, 1998 Page 3

Issue #3: What is the total purchased gas adjustment true-up amount to be refunded during the period of April 1998 through
March 1999?

SJNG's Position: \$13,478 overrecovery

Issue #4: What is the appropriate levelized purchased gas adjustment recovery (cap) factor for the period April, 1998 through March, 1999?

SJNG's Position: 68.000 recovery (cap) factor

Issue #5: What should be the effective date of the new purchased gas adjustment charge for billing purposes?

SJNG's Position: The effective date for the new purchased gas adjustment charge should be April 1, 1998.

Street Most

Stuart L. Shoaf, President
St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 549
Port St. Joe, Florida 32457-0549
(850) 229-8216

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Purchased Gas Recovery)	Docket No. 980003-GU Submitted for filing February 3, 1998
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Prehearing Statement filed on behalf of St. Joe Natural Gas Company has been served upon all known parties of record on this 3rd day of February 1998.

Muart Mrsq. Stuart L. Shoaf, President