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REPORTING January 6, 1999 Steel Hector & Davis LLP 215 South Monroe, Suite 601 Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1804 850.222.2300 850,222,8410 Fax www.steelhector.com

Jonathan E. Sjostrom

Via Hand Delivery

Blanca S. Bayó, Director Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 4075 Esplanade Way, Room 110 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

> **Adoption of Numeric Conservation** Re:

Goals by Florida Power & Light Company

Docket No. 971004-EG

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed please find the original and fifteen (15) copies of Florida Power & Light Company's Response to LEAF's Motion to Extend Discovery Schedule and Filing Date for LEAF's Testimony & Exhibits in Docket No. 971004-EG.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact me at 222-2300.

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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Adoption of Numeric Conservation Goals ) Docket No. 971004-EG for Florida Power & Light Company ) Filed: January 6, 1999

## RESPONSE OF FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY TO LEAF'S MOTION TO EXTEND DISCOVERY SCHEDULE AND FILING DATE FOR LEAF'S TESTIMONY & EXHIBITS

Pursuant to Florida Administrative Code Rule 28-106.204(1), Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL") files this response to the Motion to Extend Discovery Schedule and Filing Date for LEAF's Testimony & Exhibits filed by the Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation, Inc. ("LEAF") on December 30, 1998.

- 1. The more than five plus month extension sought by LEAF in this and companion dockets is unreasonable. FPL has informed LEAF that it does not oppose a modest extension, and FPL has previously worked with and will continue to work with LEAF to process reasonable discovery to facilitate the timely trial of this case. However, the five plus month extension sought by LEAF will seriously delay the already extensive and laborious process the Commission's rule regarding DSM goals and programs has established. It will significantly delay the hearing and the decision on goals, and it will defer the date DSM program modifications based on new goals will take effect.
- 2. Establishing new DSM goals for Florida's utilities is only a part of the overall process of establishing new DSM programs. Under the current schedule, new DSM programs will not be in place in a timely fashion. Either they will be based upon a dated planning process at the time

the program changes are made, or they will be based upon a new planning process that was not used to establish the goals. Further delay as suggested by LEAF exacerbates this problem and runs the risk of establishing goals which may be close to two planning processes removed from any program modifications ultimately approved. Consequently, before considering an extension, consider whether there is a compelling need to significantly extend an already incredibly long, resource consuming process so that LEAF may be afforded an opportunity to develop an alternative planning process.

- 3. FPL does not oppose a modest extension for LEAF, as it has already informed LEAF. However, the five plus month extension sought is unwarranted. LEAF has already identified through discovery all the documents FPL will rely upon in developing its DSM goals. FPL has agreed to make those documents available to LEAF when FPL files its goals proposal the time at which the documents are no longer working documents. Much of the information LEAF suggests it may need to elicit through discovery will be part of FPL's goals filing. The remaining information necessary for LEAF to review FPL's filing and propose alternatives will be available to LEAF at the time of the filing. Therefore, four months to review FPL's filing and conduct discovery is not reasonable.
- 4. LEAF also asks for two additional months to conduct its own analysis. First, it should be noted that an alternative analysis may not be necessary, and LEAF should not presume it will be. Second, if LEAF already knows that an alternative analysis will be necessary, then it could already be performing such an analysis and be prepared to compare its results with those of FPL and other utilities.

LEAF's request for an additional three weeks to prepare testimony is also unjustified.
 LEAF could prepare most of its testimony contemporaneously with any analysis it will be performing.

6. A modest extension of several weeks that does not put the hearing at jeopardy and which extends other dates in the schedule may be warranted. However, LEAF's enormous extension request is simply not justifiable. Therefore, FPL told LEAF that it opposed its motion and urges the Commission to deny the motion and consider more modest relief if it is so inclined.

Respectfully submitted,

STEEL HECTOR & DAVIS LLP 215 South Monroe Street Suite 601 Tallahassee, FL 32301 (850) 222-2300

Attorneys for Florida Power & Light Company

By: <u>(Nanlus A Suyto)</u> Charles A. Gu<del>xt</del>on

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of Florida Power & Light Company's Response to LEAF's Motion to Extend Discovery Schedule and Filing Date for LEAF's Testimony & Exhibits were served by Hand Delivery (when indicated with an \*) or mailed this 6th day of January, 1999 to the following:

Leslie Paugh, Esquire\*
Division of Legal Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Gunter Building, Room 370
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Kenneth Hoffman, Esquire Rutledge, Ecenia, Underwood, Purnell & Hoffman 215 South Monroe, Suite 420 Tallahassee, Florida 32301

McWhirter Law Firm Vicki Kaufman, Esquire 117 South Gadsden Street Tallahassee, Florida 32301 Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation Gail Kamaras 1114 Thomasville Road, Suite E Tallahassee, Florida 32301

McWhirter Law Firm John McWhirter, Esquire Post Office Box 3350 Tampa, Florida 33601-3350 Jeffrey A. Stone, Esquire Beggs & Lane Post Office Box 12950 Pensacola, Florida 32576-2950

Lee L. Willis, Esquire James D. Beasley, Esquire Ausley & McMullen 227 South Calhoun Street Tallahassee, Florida 32301 James A. McGee, Esquire Florida Power Corporation Post Office Box 14042 St. Petersburg, Florida 33733

Jack Shreve, Esquire Office of Public Counsel 111 West Madison Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399 Mollie Lampi, Esquire Pace University Energy Project 122 South Swan Street Albany, New York 12110

Charles A. Guyton

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