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THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

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July 21, 1999

Ms. Mary Anne Helton Associate General Counsel Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

PSC Docket No. 990707-EI

RE: Public Service Commission Rule 25-6.0142 F.A.C.

Dear Mary Anne:

I have completed my review of the above referenced rule that was noticed in the July 16, 1999 edition of the Florida Administrative Weekly and have the following concerns:

25-6.0142(2)(a). This refers to the definition of "Average Inventory Cost." This rule section provides that "the group and cost may relate to a vintage or group of vintages." It then goes on to provide an example where "the average cost of a property item may vary depending on the original vintage falling in the 1985-1990 period, as compared to the same item having the original vintage in the 1991-1995 period." The use of the word "may" indicates that the cost may or may not relate to a vintage or group of vintages. The given example in the next sentence does not offer any illumination as to whether in fact, the cost must relate to a vintage or group of vintages. Without clarification, this rule section is vague and vests unbridled discretion in the agency by rule. See Section 120.52(8)(d), F.S.

25-6.0142(6)(a). The reference to "Account 154, Plant Materials and Operating Supplies," should have parentheticals around "Account 154" so to appear consistent with the other accounting measures found in 25-6.0142(4)(b).

-25-6.0142(6)(c). Please see the above comments.

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The following concerns the "List of Retirement Units (Electrical Plants) as of January 1, 2000," form as incorporated by reference in 25-6.0142(3):

(2)(a). This refers to the definition of "Average Inventory Cost." This rule section provides that "the group and cost may relate to a vintage or group of vintages." It then goes on to provide an example where "the average cost of a property item may vary depending on the original vintage falling in the 1985-1990 period, as compared to the same item having the original vintage in the 1991-1995 period." The use of the word "may" indicates that the cost may or may not relate to a vintage or group of vintages. The given example in the next sentence does not offer any illumination as to whether in fact, the cost must relate to a vintage or group of vintages. Without clarification, this rule section is vague and vests unbridled discretion in the agency by rule. See Section 120.52(8)(d), F.S.

(6)(a). The reference to "Account 154, Plant Materials and Operating Supplies," should have parentheticals around "Account 154" so to appear consistent with the other accounting measures found in (4)(b).

(6)(c). Please see the above comments.

My understanding from our telephone conversation yesterday that you have agreed to placing the parentheticals around the accounting measures, as outlined herein and that you would look further into issues surrounding the definition of "average inventory cost." I look forward to discussing this matter with you further. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not he sitate to call.

Sincerely yours

Matthew A. Sirmans

Chief Attorney

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