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June 8, 2000

Ms. Mary Ann Helton
Florida Public Service Commission
Office of General Counsel
Division of Appeals
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Docket No. 000531-EI
LEAF's letter of May 30, 2000

Dear Ms. Helton:

This letter concerns Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation's ("LEAF") letter to you dated May 30, 2000. LEAF's letter is without merit and is an improper communication by a non-party in a docketed matter. In the May 30, 2000 letter, LEAF accuses Gulf Power Company ("Gulf") of filing a frivolous petition and using "delaying tactics". These assertions by LEAF are completely unfounded. Gulf's request meets all Commission rules and statutory requirements regarding requests for confidentiality.

The letter dated May 30, 2000 is itself improper and frivolous. LEAF is not a party to Docket No. 000531-EI, nor has it sought party status. LEAF has no legal right to actively participate in this docket until such time that they file a petition seeking party status and that petition for party status is granted by the Commission. LEAF's actions herein are no more than an attempt to seize the benefits of being a party to a docketed matter without complying with the Commission's rules for intervention into a docketed matter. LEAF's actions are at best improper.

APP _____ Likewise, LEAF failed to comply with legal requirements regarding communications with parties
CAF _____ represented by counsel and communications in docketed matters. In the event a party is
CMP _____ represented by counsel, correspondence in a docketed matter must be served on that counsel.
COM _____ Gulf is represented by counsel. The May 30, 2000 letter was sent to counsel at the Commission
CTR _____ and directly to Gulf but it was not served on counsel for Gulf. In fact, no service list accompanies
ECR _____ the letter. LEAF's failure to follow Commission rules regarding communications to parties
LEG _____ should not be sanctioned by the Commission, its Counsel, or its staff. The letter and the
OPC _____ assertions made therein by LEAF have no factual or legal basis and therefore constitute a
PAI _____ frivolous filing that should not be considered for any purpose in this docket.
RGO _____
SEC _____
SER _____
OTH _____

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Gulf requests that LEAF's letter dated May 30, 2000 be removed from all consideration in this docket.

Very truly yours,



Russell A. Badders
For the Firm

cc: Blanca Bayo, Director ✓
Division of Records and Reporting
Debra Swim
Vicki Kaufman