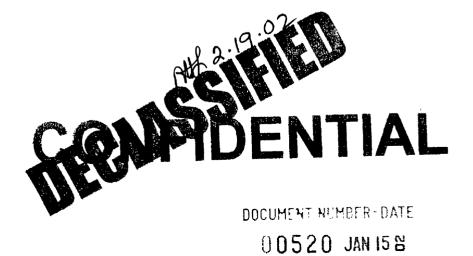
DOCKET NO.: 010949-EI - Request for rate increase by Gulf Power Company.

N

WITNESS: Direct Testimony Of Edward D. Bass II, Appearing On Behalf Of The Staff Of The Florida Public Service Commission

DATE FILED: January 14, 2002



FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

1	DIRECT TESTIMONY OF EDWARD D. BASS II
2	Q. Please state your name and business address.
3	A. My name is Edward D. Bass II and my business address is 2540 Shumard Oak
4	Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850.
5	Q. By whom are you presently employed and in what capacity?
6	A. I am employed by the Florida Public Service Commission as a Regulatory
7	Analyst III in the Division of Auditing and Safety.
8	Q. How long have you been employed by the Commission?
9	A. I have been employed by the Florida Public Service Commission since
10	July, 1997.
11	Q. Briefly review your educational and professional background.
12	A. In 1995, I received a Degree in Accounting from the University of
13	Florida. I worked for the Department of Management Services as an Accountant
14	I and II for thirteen months before joining the Commission staff as a
15	Professional Accountant. I was promoted to my current position in June, 2001.
16	I am also a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the State of Florida.
17	Q. Please describe your current responsibilities.
18	A. Currently, I am a Regulatory Analyst III with the responsibilities of
19	planning and directing audits of regulated companies, and assisting in audits
20	of affiliated transactions. I also am responsible for creating audit work
21	programs to meet a specific audit purpose.
22	Q. What is the purpose of your testimony today?
23	A. The purpose of my testimony is to sponsor the staff audit report of Gulf
24	Power Company, Docket No. 010949-EI. The audit report is filed with my
25	testimony and is identified as EDB-1.

1 Q. Was this audit report prepared by you or under your direction?

2 A. Yes, I was the audit manager in charge of this audit.

3 0. Please review the work you and the audit staff performed in this audit. 4 Α. We compiled supporting documentation for rate base components for the 5 year ended December 31, 2000, performed a judgmental sample of plant in 6 service additions, compiled accumulated depreciation and traced depreciation 7 rates to Commission orders, and scanned projected plant in service for the 12-8 month period ended May 31, 2003. We also toured the construction site of 9 Plant Smith Unit 3 - Combined Cycle, performed a judgmental sample of 10 transactions related to the construction of Plant Smith Unit 3 - Combined 11 Cycle, toured two sites included in plant held for future use, scanned the 12 utility's continuing property records, verified adjustments to rate base in 13 accordance with Commission Order No. 23573, issued October 3, 1990, and 14 compiled working capital accounts.

15 We also compiled supporting documentation for net operating income 16 components for the year ended December 31, 2000, performed a judgmental sample 17 of operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses and examined the invoices and 18 other supporting documentation, and compiled advertising expenses included in 19 the year ended December 31, 2000. We also recalculated depreciation expense, 20 compiled support for taxes other than income and income taxes, and verified 21 adjustments to net operating income in accordance with Commission Order No. 22 23573. issued October 3. 1990.

23 We also compiled supporting documentation for capital structure 24 components for the year ended December 31, 2000, traced principal amounts and 25 interest rates to supporting debt instruments, verified costs rates used in

-2-

1 the computation of the cost of capital, and scanned the reconciliation of 2 capital structure with rate base.

Other miscellaneous procedures we performed include scanning the utility's board of directors' minutes for the 12-month period ended December 31, 1998 through the second quarter of 2001, scanning the utility's outside auditor's working papers for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2000, and obtaining a description of the utility's O&M expense budget process.

8 Q. Please review the audit exceptions in the audit report.

9 A. Audit Exceptions disclose substantial non-compliance with the National 10 Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Uniform System of 11 Accounts (USOA), a Commission rule or order, and formal company policy. Audit 12 Exceptions also disclose company exhibits that do not represent company books 13 and records and company failure to provide underlying records or documentation 14 to support the general ledger or exhibits.

15 Audit Exception No. 1 discusses Advertising Expenses. The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule C-26 and general ledger include 16 17 four advertising accounts: 930.100 - General Advertising - Salaries, 930.110 -General/Institutional - Production, 930.120 - General/Institutional - Media, 18 and 930.180 - Industry Sponsored Advertising. These four accounts total 19 \$226,000 for the historical year and \$550,000 for the test year. 20 The utility's MFR Schedule C-3 reflects an adjustment in the amount of \$223,000 21 22 (\$226,000 x .9822560 jurisdictional factor) to remove all of the expenses in 23 each of these accounts related to image enhancement advertising for the 24 historical year ended December 31, 2000. However, the utility did not make 25 an adjustment to remove these image enhancement advertising expenses from the

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1 | test year.

Commission Order No. 6465, issued January 17, 1975, in Docket No. 9046EU, a general investigation of promotional practices of electric utilities,
states that advertising which has as its primary objective the enhancement of
or preservation of the corporate image of the utility shall be disallowed for
rate making purposes.

7 I have reviewed these image enhancement advertising expenses for the historical year ended December 31, 2000. In accordance with Commission Order 8 9 No. 6465, the utility should make an adjustment to remove the projected image enhancement advertising expenses in the amount of \$539,000 (\$550,000 x 10 .9803411 jurisdictional factor) from the test year ended May 31, 2003. The 11 12 utility should also review its expenses for the projected test year ending May 31, 2003 to assure that any amounts related to this exception are also 13 14 removed.

Audit Exception No. 2 discusses Lobbying Expenses and Donations. The utility's operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses for the historical year ended December 31, 2000 include \$7,000 recorded in account 930.200 - Industry Association Dues, \$500 recorded in account 500.000 - Operation Supervision and Engineering Expenses, and \$600 recorded in account 500.000 - Operation Supervision and Engineering Expenses.

The \$7,000 was for the utility's membership dues for Associated Industries of Florida, of which 100 percent is related to lobbying activities. The \$500 was a charitable contribution to St. Andrew Bay Center. The \$600 was paid for a golf tournament donation.

25

The Uniform System of Accounts, 18 CFR 101 includes Account 426.1 -

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Donations, which includes all payments or donations for charitable, social, or community welfare purposes; and Account 426.4 - Expenditures for certain civic, political and related activities, which includes expenditures for the purpose of influencing public opinion with respect to the election or appointment of public officials, referenda, legislation, or ordinances.

6 In accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts, 18 CFR 101, the 7 utility should make an adjustment to properly classify these O&M expenses for 8 the historical year ended December 31, 2000. The utility's MFRs reflect 9 \$7,000 in membership dues for Associated Industries of Florida for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility should make an adjustment 10 11 to properly classify this expense for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility should also review its O&M expenses for the projected test 12 13 year ended May 31, 2003, to assure expenses are properly classified in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts. Proper classification of 14 15these expenses will remove them from the determination of revenue requirement. Please review the audit disclosures in the audit report. 16 0

17 Audit Disclosure No. 1 discusses the Caryville - Plant Held for Future Α. 18 Use. The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule B-3 reflects 19 \$3.164.000 in total plant held for future use. for the projected test year 20 ended May 31, 2003. One of the properties include in this plant held for 21 future use is the Caryville electric generating plant site with a book value 22 of \$1,356,000. The audit staff toured the Caryville plant site and observed 23 The Caryville electric generating plant site is located in the following. 24 Washington and Holmes Counties. It is an irregular plot covering over 2,000 acres. The site consists of mostly wooded land, with a small part bordering 25

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on the Choctawhatchee River. The land is fenced and posted. The utility has
 described the land as used to plant, cultivate, and harvest timber and
 pulpwood. The land is classified as agricultural for property tax purposes.

4 The utility acquired the site in 1963 and has not built a plant on it. However, the utility has made several capacity additions to other sites since 5 6 then, which include the acquisition of fifty percent of Plant Daniel, upgrades 7 to Plant Crist and Plant Smith, and the acquisition of land in 1998 for the 8 Mossy Head generating plant site. The utility's 46KV line cuts through and 9 divides the northern sector in Holmes County and a county maintained road cuts 10through and divides the southern sector in Washington County. The land is not 11 currently being used for utility purposes except for a small plot in the southeast sector which houses an antenna for the Southern Company 12 13 radio/telephone network and the 46KV line.

There is evidence that small portions of the land have been farmed at one time. During the last rate case, a large portion of the land was used as a sod farm. The sod farm operation has ceased and the land is back in timber and pulpwood production as evidenced by large areas of planted pine trees.

18 The utility entered into an agreement on November 9, 2000, with the 19 Brunson Landing Hunt Club to allow the club to hunt on the Caryville and Mossy 20 Head properties. The hunt club provides liability insurance to cover its 21 activities. The agreement includes an initial term of five years beginning 22 September 1, 2000 and terminating on August 5, 2005, and is renewable. The 23 hunt club is not obligated to pay the utility rent for the years 2001 through 24 2003. For the years 2004 and 2005 the hunt club will pay the utility a annual 25 rental payment of \$3,600 for use of the land. Since revenues are not to be

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received until 2004, no revenues are reflected in the test year ended May 31,
 2003. Disclosure No. 1 was written to provide information regarding the plant
 held for future use.

4 Audit Disclosure No. 2 discusses the Corporate Office - Third Floor. During the company's last rate proceeding, in Docket No. 891345-EI, the 5 Commission ordered the utility to remove the cost of the third floor of the 6 corporate office from plant in service. The utility's Minimum Filing 7 Requirements (MFRs). Schedule B-4 reflects an adjustment to remove \$4,031,000. 8 for the historical year. from plant in service for the cost of the third floor 9 of the corporate office. However, the utility did not make an adjustment to 1011 remove the cost of the third floor of the corporate office in the projected 12 test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility states that the adjustment is no 13 longer needed since the third floor of the corporate office is used and useful 14 for utility operations.

15 In 1999, audit staff toured the third floor of the corporate office. At that time the utility stated that the third floor is primarily used for 16 storage of records retention; spare office furniture; miscellaneous supplies 17 for the kitchen, print shop, safety and health, and power delivery. It also 18 19 contains a workshop for building maintenance. Over 90% of the 52,000 square feet of office space is utilized. The current audit staff also toured the 20 third floor of the corporate office and concurs with the utility's statement 21 22 above.

Audit Disclosure No. 3 discusses the Corporate Office Restaurant and Bank. The utility rents a portion of its corporate office space to Norma's Restaurant. In addition, the utility donates office space within its

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1 corporate office to Gulf Power Employees Credit Union. The employee cafeteria 2 currently being leased to Norma's Restaurant serves the function of providing 3 employees with food service. During the 1990 rate case review of the utility's corporate office building, the amount of investment related to the 4 5 cafeteria space was reviewed and allowed in rate base. Norma's Restaurant 6 opened for business in 1997 to provide cafeteria service for the occupants of the building, catering in the building, and a restaurant open to the general 7 8 public. By leasing the space to Norma's as a public restaurant rather than 9 operating the cafeteria only for employees through a management company, or 10 operating it with utility employees, the utility has lowered costs through a 11 reduction in the custodial staff that supported catering in the building and 12 eliminating the cafeteria management fee. The utility improved the quality 13 of service to its employees while at the same time reduced its costs and 14 increased lease revenue. Norma's Restaurant is billed a monthly lease 15 payment. These monthly lease payments are recorded in Account 454 - Rent from 16 Electric Property.

The services provided by the credit union are an employee benefit to the utility's employees. Banking services such as check cashing, loans, investments, and other services are available to employees at no cost to the utility. The credit union's office space is donated. This disclosure was written to provide information.

Audit Disclosure No. 4 discusses Other Operating Revenues. The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule C-10 reflects other operating revenue amounts for the historical year and projected test year. Account 454 - Rent from Electric Property decreased from \$5,323,000 to

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1 \$4,837,000, or 9.1% from the historic year to the test year. Account 456 2 Other Electric Revenues increased from \$5,016,000 to \$6,248,000, or 24.5%.

The decrease in Account 454 - Rent from Electric Property primarily reflects an accounting change to no longer credit miscellaneous revenue for billings made to affiliates for their use of building space and office furniture and equipment. These billings are now being credited to expense to properly offset the building and equipment costs with the amounts being recovered from affiliates.

9 The increase in Account 456 - Other Electric Revenues reflects an 10 increase in revenues related to the utility's share of wheeling and 11 transmission service related transactions and cogeneration service charges. 12 Disclosure No. 4 was written to provide information.

13 Audit Disclosure No. 5 discusses the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) 14 Expense Budget Process. My understanding of the O&M expense budget process 15 is as follows. The utility's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) reviews budgeted revenues forecasted for the period and communicates a budget message that 16 outlines the goals and objectives of the utility and gives guidelines to the 17 18 planning units for development of their budgets and forecasts. The budget 19 message issued by the CFO includes an inflation rate. The rate of inflation 20 provided for the 2003 forecast was 2.4 percent. Southern Company Services 21 utilizing forecast data obtained from Regional Financial Associates (RFA), now 22 known as Economy.com, Inc. develops these rates of inflation. The budget 23 message also includes customer growth rates provided by the Marketing 24 Department. The customer growth rate provided for preparing the O&M budget 25 was 1.7 percent for 2003. Salary escalation rates are furnished annually by

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Human Resources and sent by separate correspondence to the manager of the
 planning unit. The labor escalation rate used for the 2003 forecast was 4
 percent.

4 The utility has 29 planning units that roll up into 5 functional areas to develop the utility's O&M expense budget. Each planning unit receives the 5 6 budget message which contains the inflation rates and customer growth rates. 7 The planning units are not required to use the inflation rates or customer 8 growth rates provided in the budget message. This information provided in the 9 budget message is used as a guideline or reference tool for the planning units. These planning units use a modified zero base budgeting methodology. 10This methodology allows the planning units the flexibility to build their 11 budget program by program each year. Some planning units that have little 12 13 variation from the prior year may use the prior year approved budget and adjust the dollars for escalation and/or new programs. 14

15 Each planning unit develops its budget by FERC Sub account. if the 16 planning unit can develop the amount to budget for a specific O&M expense, the 17 developed amount becomes the budgeted amount for that specific O&M expense. Each planning unit maintains supporting documentation for these developed 18 19 amounts. If the planning unit is unable to develop the budgeted amount for 20 a given expenditure, then the inflation rate or customer growth rate provided 21 in the budget message may be used. Therefore, it is possible that a FERC Sub 22 account could contain known developed amounts and amounts adjusted by 23 inflation rates and/or customer growth rates provided in the budget message. 24 Corporate Planning reviews submittals for compliance with the company 25 quidelines and compiles the data for review by the CFO and leadership team.

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1	Any changes are documented and then the approved budget is sent to the
2	planning units. Each planning unit monitors their budget to actual comparison
3	using the accounting reporting on-line system referred to as Southern
4	Financial Information Access System (SOFIA). Quarterly reports are required
5	that explain any variance plus or minus 10 percent and the variance amount is
6	greater than or equal to plus or minus \$25,000. Year-end projections are also
7	received from each planning unit. This disclosure was written to provide
8	information.
9	Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
10	A. Yes.
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# FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DIVISION OF REGULATORY OVERSIGHT BUREAU OF AUDITING SERVICES

Tallahassee District Office

GULF POWER COMPANY

RATE CASE AUDIT

PROJECTED TEST YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2003

DOCKET NO. 010949-EI AUDIT CONTROL NO. 01-255-1-1

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Edward D. Bass II, Audit Manager

Mike Buckley, Audit Staf

Barry Davis, Audit Staff

Bob Moore, Audit Staff

Lym M. Deamer, Audit Supervisor

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#### DIVISION OF REGULATORY OVERSIGHT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### December 20, 2001

#### **TO: FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES**

We have applied the procedures described later in this report to audit the accompanying schedules of Rate Base, Net Operating Income, and Capital Structure, for the historical 12-month period ended December 31, 2000 and the projected test year ended May 31, 2003, for Gulf Power Company. The attached schedules were prepared by the utility as part of its petition for rate relief in Docket No. 010949-EI. There is confidential information associated with this audit.

This is an internal accounting report prepared after performing a limited scope audit. Accordingly, this report should not be relied upon for any purpose except to assist the Commission staff in the performance of their duties. Substantial additional work would have to be performed to satisfy generally accepted auditing standards and produce audited financial statements for public use.

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#### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs) reflect image enhancement advertising expenses for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. Lobbying expenses and donations were booked to incorrect accounts. Several disclosures are provided for informational purposes.

#### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT PROCEDURES

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Our audit was performed by examining, on a test basis, certain transactions and account balances which we believe are sufficient to base our opinion. Our examination did not entail a complete review of all financial transactions of the company. Our more important audit procedures are summarized below. The following definitions apply when used in this report.

Scanned - The documents or accounts were read quickly looking for obvious errors.

**Compiled** - The exhibit amounts were reconciled with the general ledger, and accounts were scanned for error or inconsistency.

Verify - The item was tested for accuracy and compared to the substantiating documentation.

**RATE BASE:** Compiled supporting documentation for rate base components for the year ended December 31, 2000. Performed a judgmental sample of plant in service since the last field audit ended December 31, 1998. Compiled accumulated depreciation and traced depreciation rates to Commission orders. Scanned projected plant in service for the 12-month period ended May 31, 2003. Toured the construction site of Plant Smith Unit 3 - Combined Cycle. Performed a judgmental sample of transactions related to the construction of Plant Smith Unit 3 - Combined Cycle. Verified allowance for funds used during construction (AFUDC) rate. Toured two sites included in plant held for future use. Verified adjustments to rate base in accordance with Commission Order No. 23573, issued October 3, 1990. Compiled working capital accounts. Scanned the utility's continuing property records.

**NET OPERATING INCOME:** Compiled supporting documentation for net operating income components for the year ended December 31, 2000. Performed a judgmental sample of operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses and examined the invoices and other supporting documentation. Compiled advertising expenses included in the year ended December 31, 2000. Recalculated depreciation expense for 1999 and 2000. Compiled support for taxes other than income and income taxes. Verified adjustments to net operating income in accordance with Commission Order No. 23573, issued October 3, 1990.

**CAPITAL STRUCTURE:** Compiled supporting documentation for capital structure components for the year ended December 31, 2000. Traced principal amounts and interest rates to supporting debt instruments. Verified costs rates used in the computation of the cost of capital. Scanned reconciliation of capital structure with rate base.

**OTHER:** Scanned the utility's board of directors' minutes for the 12-month period ended December 31, 1998 through the second quarter ended June 30, 2001. Scanned the utility's outside auditor's working papers for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2000. Obtained a description of the utility's O&M expense budget process.

#### **EXCEPTIONS**

#### **Exception No. 1**

#### Subject: Advertising Expenses

**Statement of Fact:** The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule C-26 and general ledger reflect the following advertising expense amounts for the historical year ended December 31, 2000, prior year ended May 31, 2002, and test year ended May 31, 2003.

Account/Description	Historical Year	Prior Year	Test Year
930.100 - General Advertising - Salaries	\$13,000	\$28,000	\$27,000
930.110 - General/Institutional - Production	\$52,000	\$360,000	\$203,000
930.120 - General/Institutional - Media	\$140,000	\$233,000	\$320,000
930.180 - Industry Sponsored Advertising	\$21,000	\$0	\$0
Totals	\$226,000	\$621,000	\$550,000

The utility's MFR Schedule C-3 reflects an adjustment in the amount of \$223,000 (\$226,000 x .9822560 jurisdictional factor) to remove expenses related to image enhancement advertising for the historical year ended December 31, 2000. However, the utility did not make an adjustment to remove these image enhancement advertising expenses from the prior year or test year.

Commission Order No. 6465, issued January 17, 1975, defines advertising which has as its primary objective the enhancement of or preservation of the corporate image of the utility shall be disallowed for ratemaking purposes.

**Recommendation:** The audit staff has reviewed these image enhancement advertising expenses for the historical year ended December 31, 2000. In accordance with Commission Order No. 6465, issued January 17, 1975, the utility should make an adjustment to remove the projected image enhancement advertising expenses in the amount of \$539,000 (\$550,000 x .9803411 jurisdictional factor) from the test year ended May 31, 2003.

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## Exception No. 2

#### Subject: Lobbying Expenses and Donations

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Statement of Fact: The utility's books and records reflect the following operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses for the historical year ended December 31, 2000.

Reference Number	Account/Description	Amount
00018027	930.200 - Industry Association Dues	\$7,000
00286116	500.000 - Operation Supervision and Engineering Expenses	\$500
0020549	500.000 - Operation Supervision and Engineering Expenses	\$600

Accounts payable reference number 00018027 reflects the utility's membership dues for Associated Industries of Florida, of which 100 percent is related to lobbying activities. Reference number 00286116 reflects a charitable contribution to St. Andrew Bay Center, and reference number 0020549 reflects a golf tournament donation.

The Uniform System of Accounts, 18 CFR 101 provides the following account classifications: Account 426.1 - Donations, which includes all payments or donations for charitable, social, or community welfare purposes; and Account 426.4 - Expenditures for certain civic, political and related activities, which includes expenditures for the purpose of influencing public opinion with respect to the election or appointment of public officials, referenda, legislation, or ordinances.

**Recommendation:** In accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts, 18 CFR 101, the utility should make an adjustment to properly classify these O&M expenses for the historical year ended December 31, 2000. The utility's MFRs reflect \$7,000 in membership dues for Associated Industries of Florida for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility should make an adjustment to properly classify this expense for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility should review its O&M expenses for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003, to assure expenses are properly classified in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts, 18 CFR 101.

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## DISCLOSURES

#### **Disclosure No. 1**

#### Subject: Caryville - Plant Held for Future Use

**Statement of Fact:** The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule B-3 reflects \$3,164,000 in total plant held for future use, for the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. One of the properties included in this plant held for future use is the Caryville electric generating plant site with a book value of \$1,356,000. The audit staff toured the Caryville plant site and observed the following.

The Caryville electric generating plant site is located in Washington and Holmes Counties. It is an irregular shaped plot covering over 2,000 acres. The site consists of mostly wooded land, with a small part bordering on the Choctawhatchee River. The land is fenced and posted. The utility has described the land as used to plant, cultivate and harvest timber, and pulpwood. The land is classified as agricultural for property tax purposes.

The utility acquired the site in 1963 and has not yet built on the site.

However, the utility has made several other capacity additions since then which include the acquisition of fifty percent of Plant Daniel, upgrades to Plant Crist and Plant Smith, and the acquisition of land in 1998 for the Mossy Head generating plant site.

The utility's 46KV line cuts through and divides the northern sector in Holmes County and a county maintained road cuts through and divides the southern sector in Washington County.

The land is not currently being used for utility purposes except for a small plot in the southeast sector which houses an antenna for the Southern Company radio/telephone network and the 46KV line.

There is evidence that small portions of the land have been farmed at one time. During the last rate case, a large portion of the land was used as a sod farm. The sod farm operation has ceased and the land is back in timber and pulpwood production as evidenced by large areas of planted pine trees.

The utility entered into an agreement on November 9, 2000, with the Brunson Landing Hunt Club to allow the club to hunt on the Caryville and Mossy Head properties. A copy of the agreement is included in the audit work papers. The hunt club provides liability insurance to cover its activities. The agreement includes an initial term of five years beginning September 1, 2000 and terminating on August 5, 2005, and is renewable. The hunt club is not obligated to pay the utility rent for the years 2001 through 2003. For the years 2004 and 2005 the hunt club will pay the utility an annual rental payment of \$3,600 for use of the land. Since revenues are not to be received until 2004, no revenues are reflected in the test year ended May 31, 2003.

**Recommendation:** This disclosure is provided for informational purposes.

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**Disclosure No. 2** 

## Subject: Corporate Office - Third Floor

**Statement of Fact:** During the company's last rate proceeding, the Commission ordered the utility to remove the cost of the third floor of the corporate office from plant in service. The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule B-4 reflects an adjustment to remove \$4,031,000 and \$3,721,000 for the historical year and prior year, respectively, from plant in service for the cost of the third floor of the corporate office in the utility did not make an adjustment to remove the cost of the third floor of the corporate office in the projected test year ended May 31, 2003. The utility states that the adjustment is no longer needed since the third floor of the corporate office is used and useful for utility operations.

The 1999 audit staff toured the third floor of the corporate office. At that time the utility stated that the third floor is primarily used for storage of records retention; spare office furniture; miscellaneous supplies for the kitchen, print shop, safety and health, and power delivery. It also contains a workshop for building maintenance. Over 90% of the 52,000 square feet of office space is utilized.

The current audit staff toured the third floor of the corporate office and concurs with the utility's statement above.

Recommendation: This disclosure is provided for informational purposes.

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#### **Disclosure No. 3**

#### Subject: Corporate Office Restaurant and Bank

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**Statement of Fact:** The utility rents a portion of its corporate office to Norma's Restaurant. In addition, the utility donates office space within its corporate office to Gulf Power Employees Credit Union.

The employee cafeteria currently being leased to Norma's Restaurant serves the function of providing employees with food service. During the 1990 rate case review of the utility's corporate office building, the amount of investment related to the cafeteria space was reviewed and allowed in rate base. Norma's Restaurant opened for business in 1997 to provide cafeteria service for the occupants of the building, catering in the building, and a restaurant open to the general public. By leasing the space to Norma's as a public restaurant rather than operating the cafeteria only for employees through a management company, or operating it with utility employees, the utility has lowered costs through a reduction in the custodial staff that supported catering in the building and eliminating the cafeteria management fee. The utility improved the quality of service to its employees while at the same time reduced its costs and increased lease revenue. Norma's Restaurant is billed a monthly lease payment. These monthly lease payments are recorded in Account 454 - Rent from Electric Property.

The services provided by the credit union are an employee benefit to the utility's employees. Banking services such as check cashing, loans, investments, and other services are available to employees at no cost to the utility. The credit union's office space is donated.

**Recommendation:** This disclosure is provided for informational purposes.

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#### Disclosure No. 4

#### Subject: Other Operating Revenues

**Statement of Fact:** The utility's Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs), Schedule C-10 reflects the following other operating revenue amounts for the historical year and projected test year.

Account/Description	Historical Year	Test Year	Difference	Percent Change	
454 - Rent from Electric Property	\$5,323,000	\$4,837,000	(\$486,000)	9.1%	
456 - Other Electric Revenues	\$5,016,000	\$6,248,000	\$1,232,000	24.5%	

The decrease in Account 454 - Rent from Electric Property primarily reflects an accounting change to no longer credit miscellaneous revenue for billings made to affiliates for their use of building space and office furniture and equipment. These billings are now being credited to expense to properly offset the building and equipment costs with the amounts being recovered from affiliates.

The increase in Account 456 - Other Electric Revenues reflects an increase in revenues related to the utility's share of wheeling and transmission service related transactions and cogeneration service charges.

Cogeneration service charge (CSC) revenue is received from a customer who has contracted to take exhaust heat from one of the generating units. The customer pays the utility a flat monthly amount which is reduced by a credit based on its power usage. During 2000 the customer used a great deal of energy from the unit and the credit to the fixed monthly amount for the CSC was large. This large credit offset much of the CSC revenues. With the customer's usage of the electricity from the unit dropping, the credit will get smaller and offset less of the CSC revenues.

**Recommendation:** This disclosure is provided for informational purposes.

#### Disclosure No. 5

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#### Subject: Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expense Budget Process

**Statement of Fact:** The utility provided the following description of its O&M expense budget process. The utility's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) reviews budgeted revenues forecasted for the period and communicates a budget message that outlines the goals and objectives of the utility and gives guidelines to the planning units for development of their budgets and forecasts. The budget message issued by the CFO includes an inflation rate. The rate of inflation provided for the 2003 forecast was 2.4 percent. Southern Company Services utilizing forecast data obtained from Regional Financial Associates (RFA), now known as Economy.com, Inc., develops these rates of inflation. The budget message also includes customer growth rates provided by the Marketing Department. The customer growth rate provided for preparing the O&M budget was 1.7 percent for 2003. Salary escalation rates are furnished annually by Human Resources and sent by separate correspondence to the manager of the planning unit. The labor escalation rate used for the 2003 forecast was 4 percent.

The utility has 29 planning units that roll up into 5 functional areas to develop the utility's O&M expense budget. Each planning unit receives the budget message which contains the inflation rates and customer growth rates. The planning units are not required to use the inflation rates or customer growth rates provided in the budget message. This information provided in the budget message is used as a guideline or reference tool for the planning units. These planning units use a modified zero base budgeting methodology. This methodology allows the planning units the flexibility to build their budget program by program each year. Some planning units that have little variation from the prior year may use the prior year approved budget and adjust the dollars for escalation and/or new programs

Each planning unit develops its budget by FERC Sub account. If the planning unit can develop the amount to budget for a specific O&M expense, the developed amount becomes the budgeted amount for that specific O&M expense. Each planning unit maintains supporting documentation for these developed amounts. If the planning unit is unable to develop the budgeted amount for a given expenditure, then the inflation rate or customer growth rate provided in the budget message may be used. Therefore, it is possible that a FERC Sub account could contain known developed amounts and amounts adjusted by inflation rates and/or customer growth rates provided in the budget message.

Corporate Planning reviews submittals for compliance with the company guidelines and compiles the data for review by the CFO and leadership team. Any changes are documented and then the approved budget is sent to the planning units. Each planning unit monitors their budget to actual comparison using the accounting reporting on-line system referred to as Southern Financial Information Access System (SOFIA). Quarterly reports are required that explain any variance plus or minus 10 percent and the variance amount is greater than or equal to plus or minus \$25,000. Year-end projections are also received from each planning unit.

Recommendation: This disclosure is provided for informational purposes.

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_	duie B-3				ADJUSTED RA	ATE BASE						Page 1 of 3	
	NDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Explanation: Provide a schedule of 13-month average rate base as adjusted for the test year, and the prior year if the test year is projected. Provide detail of all adjustments on Schedule B-4.								Type of data shown: Projected Test Year Ended 05/31/2003 Prior Year Ended 05/31/2002 XX Historical Year Ended 12/31/2000			
Jock	el No. 010949-El	······································								Witness. R. R.	Labrato		
				Adjus	ted 13-Month A (THOUSA	-	ase						
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4) Commission Adjustments	(5)	(6)	(7) Total Utility	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11) Jurisdictional	
Lin No	-	Total Company per Books	Non- Electric Utility	Electric Utility (1) + (2)	Made in Last Case as Applicable (Sch B-5)	Adjusted per Commission (3)+(4)	Company Adjustments (Sch. B-6)	with Commission & Company Adjustments (5) + (6)	Unit Power Sales Rate Base	Total Utility Adjusted for UPS (7) - (8)	Jurisdictional Rate Base Factor	Utility Adjusted Per Company & Commission (9) x (10)	
1	Plant-in-Service	1,864,766	(2,036)	1,862,730	(71,865)	1,790,865	C	1,790,865	182,956	1,607,909	0.9759203	1,569,191	
2	Accumulated Provision for Depreciation & Amortization	848,998	(840)	848,158	(14,106)	834,052	0	834,052	68,307	765,745	0.9747363	746,399	
3	Net Plant-in-Service (1) - (2)	1,015,768	(1,196)	1,014,572	(57,759)	956,813	o	956,813	114,649	842,164	0.9769974	822,792	
4	Plant Heid for Future Use	3,156	0	3,156	0	3,156	o	3,156	0	3,156	0 9687105	3,057	
5	Construction Work-in-Progress	52,764	0	52,764	(9,850)	42,914	0	42,914	334	42,580	0.9687672	41,249	
6	Plant Acquisition Adjustment	5,477	0	5,477	0	5,477	0	5,477	5,477	0	-	0	
7	Net Utility Plant (3)+(4)+(5)+(6)	1,077,165	(1,196)	1,075,969	(67,609)	1,008,360	0	1,008,360	120,460	887,900	0.9765717	867,098	
8	Working Capital Allowance	46,087	(8,312)	37,775	(8,925)	28,850	0	28,850	1,396	27,454	0.9606615	26,374	
9	Other Rate Base	0	0	0	0	<u> </u>	0	0	0	0		0	
10	Total Rate Base (7) + (8) + (9)	1,123,252	(9,508)	1,113,744	(76,534)	1,037,210	0	1,037,210	121,856	915,354		893,472	
11	Operating Income	88,235	-	88,235	(5,920)	82,315	169	82,484	8,109	74,375		73,329	
12	Rate of Return (11)/(10)	7.86%	-	7.92%	=	7.94%		7.95%		8.13%		8.21%	

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of 17)
Page 13
Exhibit EDB-1 (

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Schedule C-2

FLOI	RIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSI	ON	Explanation : Provide the calculation of jurisdictional net operating income for the test year and the prior year.							Type of Data Shown: Projected Test Year Ended 5/31/03			
CON	PANY: GULF POWER COMPANY									Prior Year E	Ended 5/31/02		
										XX Historical Ye	ar Ended 12/3	1/00	
DOC	KET NO: 010949-EI									Witness: R.R. L	abrato		
						(000s)							
							on for the Twe			(2)	(10)		
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	
						Utility	-	Total	Unit Power	Total Adjusted			
		Total	Non-	Electric		Adjusted per	Company	Adjusted	Sales	Utility	Jurisdictional		
Line		Company	Electric	Utility	Adjustments	Commission	Adjustments	Utility	Net Operating	net of UPS	Separation	Amount	
No.	Description	per Books	Utility	(1) - (2)	(Sch. C-3)	(3) + (4)	(Sch, C-3)	(5) + (6)	Income	(7) - (8)	Factor	(9) x (10)	
Ç	Derating Revenues:												
1	Sales of Electricity	682,523		682,523	(312,230)	370,293	0	370,293	20,270	350,023	0.9809241	343,346	
2	Other Operating Revenues	31,794		31,794	(19,076)	12,718		12,718		12,718	0.9809017	12,475	
3	Total Operating Revenues	714,317	0	714,317	(331,306)	383,011	0	383,011	20,270	362,741	0.9809230	355,821	
ç	Dperating Expenses:												
4	Operation - Fuel	211,768		211,768	(211,768)	0		0		0	-	C	
5	Interchange	76,343		76,343	(76,343)	0		0		0	0.0000000	C	
6	Other Operation & Maintenance	183,549		183,549	(13,045)	170,504	(275)	170,229	5,032	165,197	0.9788737	161,707	
7	Depreciation & Amortization	68,705		68,705	(2,304)	66,401	0	66,401	4,354	62,047	0.9752798	60,513	
8	Amortization of Investment Credit	(1,834)		(1,834)		(1,834)		(1,834)	(335)	(1,499)	0.9753169	(1,462	
9	Taxes Other Than Income Taxes	55,904		55,904	(22,997)	32,907	0	32,907	760	32,147	0.9831135	31,605	
	Income Taxes												
10	Federal	38,383		38,383	919	39,302	91	39,393	2,827	36,566	0.9811038	35,875	
11	State	6,020		6,020	152	6,172	15	6,187	470	5,717	1.0435315	5,966	
	Deferred Income Taxes - Net												
12	Federal	(11,365)		(11,365)		(11,365)		(11,365)	(812)	(10,553)	0.9917550	(10,466	
13	State	(1,391)		(1,391)		(1,391)		(1,391)	(135)	(1,256)	0.9917550	(1,246	
14	Investment Tax Credit	0		0		0		0		0	-	0	
15	Total Operating Expenses	626,082	0	626,082	(325,386)	300,696	(169)	300,527	12,161	288,366	0.9796298	282,492	

(5,920)

0 88,235

82,315

#### ADJUSTED JURISDICTIONAL NET OPERATING INCOME

Page 1 of 3

1 11

73,329

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88,235

16 Net Operating Income

0.9859372

74,375

8,109

82,484

169

Exhibit EDB-1 (Page 14 of 1	Schedule D-1 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE CO COMPANY: GULF POWER CO DOCKET NO. 010949-EI
Ext	

Line

No.

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Common Equity

**Deferred Taxes** 

Total

**Customer Deposits** 

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#### COST OF CAPITAL - 13-MONTH AVERAGE Page 1 of 6 OMMISSION EXPLANATION: Provide the company's 13-month average cost of capital for: Type of Data Shown: 1) the test year, Projected Test Year Ended 5/31/03 OMPANY 2) the prior year if the test year is projected, and Prior Year Ended 5/31/02 3) the test year of the last rate case XX Historical Year Ended 12/31/00 Witness; R. R. Labrato (A) (E) (B) (C) (D) (F) (G) (H) (K) (M) (I) (J) (L) Balance Sheet Items Direct Non-Less: Juris-Adjust-Utility Other Excluded Unit System Jurisdictional Company Adjustments Rate Base From Power Weighted Total ments System net of dictional Capital **Class of Capital** per Books (1) (2) Adjusts. Rate Base Adjusted Sales UPS Factor Structure Ratio Cost Rate Cost Rate Historical Year Ended 12/31/00 6.93 2.14 275,512 Long-Term Debt 350,566 (23,608)326,958 44,605 282,353 0.9757712 30.84 -0.00 0.00 2 Long-Term Note • 0.9757712 • 0.00 -. Short-Term Debt 39,846 (3,075)36,771 36,771 0.9757712 35,880 4.02 6.49 0.26 --Preferred Stock (5,936)77,613 6,620 70,993 0.9757712 69,273 7.75 5.03 0.39 86,429 (2,880).

387,715

12,146

170,933

25,074

1,037,210 121,856

29,098

36,534

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349,928

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131,144

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19,589

893,472

39.16

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14.68

0.00

2.19

100.00

13.00

5.91

9.80

(29,985)

(1,016)

(11, 236)

(1,678)

(76, 534)

(9,963)

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(9,963)

(1), (2) See Notes on Attached Pages

Investment Credit - Zero Cost

Investment Credit - Weighted Cost

416,829

13,162

182,169

-

26,752

1,115,753

10,834

-

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-

7,954

5.09

0.08

0.00

0.00

0.21

8.17

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Schedule B-3				ADJUSTED RA	TE BASE						Page 3 of 3
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION			Type of data shown: XX Projected Test Year Ended 05/31/2003 Prior Year Ended 05/31/2002 Historical Year Ended 12/31/2000 Wilness: R. R. Labrato								
Dockel No. 010949-Ef		· · · , , _ <b> · · · ·</b> · · ·	Adjus	ted 13-Month A (THOUSA	•	ase					
	(1) Total	(2) Non-	(3) Electric	(4) Commission Adjustments Made in Last Case as	(5) Adjusted per	(6) Company	(7) Total Utility with Commission & Company	(8) Unit Power	(9) Total Utility Adjusted	(10) Jurisdictional	(11) Jurisdictional Utility Adjusted Per Company &
Line No. Rate Base Components	Company per Books	Electric Utility	Utility (1) + (2)	Applicable (Sch. B-5)	Commission (3)+(4)	Adjustments (Sch. B-6)	Adjustments (5) + (6)	Sales Rate Base	for UPS (7) - (8)	Rale Base Factor	Commission (9) x (10)
1 Plant-in-Service	2,277,763	(289)	2,277,474	(73,168)	2,204,286	0	2,204,286	189,273	2,015,013	0.9759203	1,966,492
2 Accumulated Provision for Depreciation & Amortization	972,552	(115)	972,437	(19,947)	952,490	2,953	955,443	79,207	876,236	0.9747363	854,099
3 Net Plant-In-Service (1) - (2)	1,305,211	(174)	1,305,037	(53,241)	1,251,796	(2,953)	1,248,843	110,066	1,138,777	0.9768313	1,112,393
4 Plant Held for Future Use	3,164	0	3,164	0	3,164	0	3,164	0	3,164	0.9687105	3,065
5 Construction Work-in-Progress	28,264	0	28,264	(11,528)	16,736	0	16,736	375	16,361	0.9687672	15,850
6 Plant Acquisition Adjustment	4,861	00	4,861	0	4,861	0	4,861	4,861	0	-	0
7 Net Utility Plant (3)+(4)+(5)+(6)	1,341,500	(174)	1,341,326	(64,769)	1,276,557	(2,953)	1,273,604	115,302	1,158,302	0.9766952	1,131,308
8 Working Capital Allowance	67,951	(55)	67,896	1,026	68,92 <b>2</b>	0	68,922	(420)	69,342	0.9690231	67,194
9 Other Rate Base	0	0	00	0	0	0	0	0			0_
10 Total Rate Base (7) + (8) + (9)	1,409,451	(229)	1,409,222	(63,743)	1,345,479	(2,953)	1,342,526	114,882	1,227,644		1,198,502
11 Operating Income	80,185	e	80,185	(6,666)	73,519	(4,137)	69,382	7,724	61,658		61,378
12 Rate of Return (11) / (10)	5.69%	-	5.69%		5.46%		5.17%		5.02%		5.12%

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Schedule C-2

FLO	RIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSI	Explanati	ion : Provid	de the calculati	Type of Data Shown:							
COI	MPANY: GULF POWER COMPANY	for the te	st year and	1 the prior year	XX Projected Test Year Ended 5/31/03 Prior Year Ended 5/31/02 Historical Year Ended 12/31/00							
DO	CKET: 010949-EI									Witness: R.R. L	abrato	
						(000s)						
									ded 5/31/2003		• • • • • •	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
						Utility		Total	Unit Power	Total Adjusted		
		Total	Non-	Electric		Adjusted per	Company	Adjusted	Sales	Utility	Jurisdictional	
Line		Company	Electric	Utility	Adjustments	Commission	•	Utility	Net Operating	net of UPS	Separation	Amount
No.	Description	per Books	Utility	(1) - (2)	(Sch. C-3)	(3) + (4)	(Sch. C-3)	(5) + (6)	Income	(7) - (8)	Factor	(9) x (10)
	Operating Revenues:											
1	Sales of Electricity	733,472		733,472	(346,645)	386,827	0	386,827	21,903	364,924	0.9834870	358,898
2	Other Operating Revenues	33,019	<u></u>	33,019	(18,934)	14,085	···	14,085		14,085	0.9809017	13,816
3	Total Operating Revenues	766,491	0	766,491	(365,579)	400,912	0	400,912	21,903	379,009	0.9833909	372,714
4	Operating Expenses:											
4	Operation - Fuel	308,818		308,818	(308,818)	0		0		0	-	
5	Interchange	17,653		17,653	(17,653)	0		0		0	0.0000000	(
6	Other Operation & Maintenance	201,325		201,325	(8,313)	193,012	559	193,571	7,217	186,354	0.9788843	182,419
7	Depreciation & Amortization	82,237		82,237	(2,645)	79,592	4,324	83,916	4,386	79,530	0.9752798	77,564
8	Amortization of Investment Credit	(1,831)		(1,831)		(1,831)		(1,831)	(332)	(1,499)	0.9753169	(1,462
9	Taxes Other Than Income Taxes Income Taxes	59,746		59,746	(23,330)	36,416	1,853	38,269	665	37,604	0.9831135	36,969
10	Federal	21,765		21,765	1,583	23,348	(2,228)	21,120	2,656	18,464	1.0349328	19,109
11	State	3,594		3,594	263	3,857	(371)	3,486	442	3,044	1.0348226	3,150
	Deferred Income Taxes - Net	-		-		-						
12	Federal	(6,296)		(6,296)		(6,296)		(6,296)	(733)	(5,563)	1.0434932	(5,805
13	State ·	(705)		(705)		(705)		(705)	(122)	(583)	1.0434932	(608
14	Investment Tax Credit	0		0		0		0		0		C
15	Total Operating Expenses	686,306	0	686,306	(358,913)	327,393	4,137	331,530	14,179	317,351	0.9810462	311,336
16	Net Operating Income	80,185	0	80,185	(6,666)	73,519	(4,137)	69,382	7,724	61,658	0.9954588	61,378

ADJUSTED JURISDICTIONAL NET OPERATING INCOME

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Supporting Schedules: C-3, C-4, C-5, C-9, C-10, C-19, C-27, C-38a, C-39, C-40, C-42, F-17

Recap Schedules: A-1a,A-2, A-10, B-3, C-1

Page 3 of 3

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Sche	dule D-1			co	ST OF CAP	ITAL - 13-MO	NTH AVERA	AGE		- <u></u>	. <u> </u>		Page 2 of	6
СОМ	RIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISS IPANY: GULF POWER COMPANY KET NO. 010949-EI		EXPLANATI	ON: Provid 1) the 2) the 3) the	Type of Data Shown: XX Projected Test Year Ended 5/31/03 XX Prior Year Ended 5/31/02 Historical Year Ended 12/31/00 Witness: R. R. Labrato									
. <u> </u>		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(!)	(J)	(K)	(L)	(M)
Line No.	Class of Capital	Company Total per Books	Direct Adjust- ments (1)	Non- Utility Adjust- ments (2)	Other Rate Base Adjusts.	Balance Sheet Items Excluded From Rate Base	System Adjusted	Less: Unit Power Sales	System net of UPS	Juris- dictional Factor	Juris- dictional Capital Structure	Ratio	Cost Rate	Weighted Cost Rate
	Prior Year Ended 5/31/02													
	Long-Term Debt Long-Term Nole	466,459 -	-	-	(76,847) -	-	389,612 -	44,569	345,043 -	0.9757906 0.9757906	336,689 -	34.76 0.00	7.04	2.45 0.00
	Short-Term Debt Preferred Stock	31,502 104,999	- (2,77 <b>1</b> )	-	(5,738) (17,416)	•	25,764 84,812	6,614	25,764 78,198	0.9757906	25,140 76,305	2.60 7.88	5.20 5.01	0.14 0.39
	Common Equity	512,204	11,559	(556)	(90,005)	-	433,202	29,074	404,128	0.9757906	394,344	40.71	13.00	5.29
	Customer Deposits	13,715	•	-	(2,498)	-	11,217	•	11,217	1.0000000	11,217	1.16	5.97	0.07
•	Deferred Taxes	172,175	-	-	(24,931)	-	147,244	35,302	111,942	0.9757906	109,232	11.28		0.00
	Investment Credit - Zero Cost Investment Credit - Weighted Cost	- 24,032	-	-	- (3,552)	-	- 20,480	4,531	15,949	0.9757906 0.9757906	- 15,563	0.00 1.61	9.76	0.00 0.16
10	Total _	1,325,086	8,788	(556)	(220,987)	•	1,112,331	120,090	992,241		968,490	100.00		8.50
	Test Year Ended 5/31/03													
11 1	Long-Term Debt	515,942	-	-	(24,378)	-	491,564	42,884	448,680	0.9760026	437,913	36.54	7.08	2,59
	Long-Term Note	-	-	-	-	-	-		•	0.9760026	-	0.00	0	0:00
	Short-Term Debt	19,233	•	-	(994)	-	18,239		18,239	0.9760026	17,801	1.49	6.02	0.09
	Preferred Stock	116,613	(2,694) 12,869	- (683)	(5,542)	•	108,377 531,989	6,364 27,975	102,013	0.9760026 0.9760026	99,565	8.31	5.01	0.42
	Common Equity Customer Deposits	547,188 13,969	12,869	(683)	(27,385) (720)	-	13,249	21,910	504,014 13,249	1.0000000	491,919 13,249	41.04 1.11	13.00 5.98	5.34 0.07
	Deferred Taxes	164,672	-		(6,757)	-	157,915	33,458	124,457	0.9760026	121,471	10.13	0.90	0.07
	Investment Credit - Zero Cost	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,100	-	0.9760026	-	0.00		0.00
	Investment Credit - Weighted Cost	22,113	-	•	(920)	-	21,193	4,201	16,992	0.9760026	16,584	1.38	9.70	0.13
20	- Total	1,399,730	10,175	(683)	(66,696)		1,342,526	444.000			1,198,502	100.00	-	8.64

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(1), (2) See Notes on Attached Pages

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