

 FROM: Division of Economic Regulation (Slemkewicz, Wheeler)

 RE: Docket No. 021135-EI, Request for Acknowledgment of Name Change From Florida Power Corporation to Florida Power Corporation d/b/a Progress Energy Florida, Inc.

On October 11, 2002, and November 7, 2002 (attached), Florida Power Corporation (FPC) submitted letters requesting that the Commission acknowledge a name change. Beginning in January 2003, FPC (Company Code EI801) will begin to operate its business under the assumed name of Progress Energy Florida, Inc. (PEFI). This is a request for acknowledgment, rather than approval, because the Commission does not have any regulatory authority over investor-owned electric utilities concerning the specific name of the utility. However, Rule 25-9.044, Florida Administrative Code, does require the utility to comply with certain requirements when a name is changed. These requirements include the adoption of the use of the existing rates, classification and regulations of the former company, and the filing of new tariffs under the new company name.

FPC contends that Rule 25-9.044, Florida Administrative Code, does not apply because the Company is only using Progress Energy Florida, Inc. as an assumed name. In other words, the name of the corporate entity will remain Florida Power Corporation. Whether or not FPC should be compelled to follow the rule is a legal question concerning whether there has been an actual name change as contemplated in the rule. Despite FPC's opinion that it does not fall under the rule, the Company does appear willing to comply with the rule if requested to do so. It is staff's opinion that FPC should be required to follow the requirements of Rule 25-9.044, Florida Administrative Code.

There is also the matter of what the exact form of the name should be for the Commission's own administrative purposes - Progress Energy Florida, Inc. or Florida Power Corporation d/b/a Progress Energy Florida, Inc. In order to avoid any confusion because both names will be in existence, it is staff's opinion that FPC d/b/a PEFI is the preferable identifying name. Attached is COM _____a copy of FPC's Application for Registration of Fictitious Name that was filed with the Secretary of State on September 30, 2002.

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Section 2.07(C)(2) of the Administrative Procedures Manual grants the Director of the Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, in coordination with the appropriate -industry division and the Office of the General Counsel, authority to approve changes of names and corporate reorganizations of regulated utilities, where no change of ownership or control or transfer of assets is involved. Staff recommends that an administrative order be issued acknowledging the name change as Florida Power Corporation d/b/a Progress Energy Florida, Inc. In addition, FPC should be directed to comply with the provisions of Rule 25-9.044, Florida Administrative Code.

cc: Kay Flynn (CCA) Attachment

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	APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF FICTITIOUS NAME Note: Acknowledgementstates to the address in Beetlen 1 only. 1. <u>Progrades Energy Florida</u> , Inc. Secretary of State	
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JAMES A. MCGEE ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL

October 11, 2002

Ms. Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Dear Ms. Bayó:

This letter is to advise the Commission for purposes of its records that beginning in January 2003, Florida Power Corporation will operate its business under the assumed name of Progress Energy or, for differentiation with its affiliate utility in the Carolinas, Progress Energy Florida. Both assumed names have been registered with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations.

In this regard, we have reviewed Commission Rule 25-9.044, Florida Administrative Code, concerning its notice requirements applicable to a "change of ownership or control of a utility which places the operation under a different or new utility, or <u>when its name is changed</u>". We have concluded that the highlighted language does not apply to the Company's use of an assumed name, since the name of the corporate entity will remain Florida Power Corporation.

Nonetheless, we want to respond affirmatively to any questions or concerns the Commission may have concerning the Company's new identity. If the Commission so desires, we would also be willing to provide a corporate assurance, consistent with the referenced rule and our clear intent in any event, that Florida Power Corporation, in operating under the name of Progress Energy or Progress Energy Florida, will continue to comply with and abide by its rates, classifications and regulations, as they currently exist or as revised from time to time by the Commission.

Please feel free to contact me or Paul Lewis in our Tallahassee office if the Commission or its staff should have any questions about this matter or desire to pursue our offer of assurance.

Very truly yours,

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James A. McGee

JAM/scc

cc: Dr. Mary Andrews Bane Harold A. McLean, Esquire Mr. Paul Lewis, Jr.



ORIGINAL

JAMES A. MCGEE ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL

November 7, 2002

Ms. Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

021135-EI

Re: Docket No. 020000-PU (Undocketed); Change of name.

Dear Ms. Bayó:

By my letter to you dated October 11, 2002, I advised that beginning in January 2003, Florida Power Corporation will operate its business under the assumed name of Progress Energy or Progress Energy Florida. I have since been informed that this information does not accurately reflect the assumed name as actually registered with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations. Accordingly, this is to advise that, effective January 2003, Florida Power Corporation will begin doing business as *Progress Energy Florida, Inc.*

Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions regarding this matter. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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James A. McGee

JAM/scc

cc: Dr. Mary Andrews Bane Harold A. McLean, Esquire Kathryn Echternaucht, Esquire

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