BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of purchased power agreement between Gulf Power Company and Shell Energy North America (US), L.P., dated March 16, 2009.

DOCKET NO. 090169-EI ORDER NO. PSC-09-0402-CFO-EI ISSUED: June 4, 2009

ORDER GRANTING GULF POWER COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION (DOCUMENT NO. 04989-09)

On May 20, 2009, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Gulf Power Company (Gulf) filed a request for confidential classification of certain information contained in its responses to Staff's First Data Request Nos. 15, 16 and 20 (Document No. 04989-09). This request was filed in Docket No. 090169-EI.

Request for Confidential Classification

Section 366.093(1), F.S., provides that "any records received by the Commission which are shown and found by the Commission to be proprietary confidential business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from Section 119.07(1) [the Public Records Act]." Section 366.093(3), F.S., defines proprietary confidential business information as information that is intended to be and is treated by the company as private, in that disclosure of the information would cause harm to the company's ratepayers or business operations, and has not been voluntarily disclosed to the public. Paragraphs (a), (d), and (e) of Section 366.093(3), F.S., provide that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to "[t]rade secrets;" "[i]nformation concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms;" and "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information."

Gulf contends that the information contained in its responses to Staff's First Data Request Nos. 15, 16 and 20, as more specifically described in the table in Attachment A, falls within the ambit of Section 366.093(3), F.S., and, thus, constitutes proprietary confidential business information entitled to protection under Section 366.093, F.S., and Rule 25-22.006, F.A.C. Gulf states that this information is intended to be and is treated by Gulf as private and has not been publicly disclosed.

Gulf specifically argues that the information in question consists of numeric calculations of Energy Savings, Equity Cost and cost-effectiveness sensitivities associated with the Purchased Power Agreement between Gulf and Shell Energy North America (US), L.P. (Shell), for which Gulf seeks approval in this case. Gulf maintains that the disclosure of this financial information would impair the ability of Gulf, Shell, and/or the owner of the generating facility, Tenaska Alabama II Partners, L.P., to compete in the marketplace. Gulf insists that disclosure of this

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information could also negatively impact Gulf's ability to negotiate contract terms favorable to its customers in the future.

Ruling

Upon review, it appears the above-referenced information satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), F.S., for classification as proprietary confidential business information and, thus, shall be treated as confidential. While it is not clear that this information constitutes "trade secrets" as that term is used in Section 366.093(3)(a), F.S., the information constitutes "[i]nformation concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms" and "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information." Thus, the information identified in Document No. 04989-09 shall be granted confidential classification.

Pursuant to Section 366.093(4), F.S., the information for which confidential classification is granted herein shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. At the conclusion of the 18-month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., unless Gulf or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner Lisa Polak Edgar, as Prehearing Officer, that Gulf Power Company's Request for Confidential Classification of Document No. 04989-09 is granted. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 04989-09 for which confidential classification has been granted shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be the only notification by the Commission to the parties of the date of declassification of the materials discussed herein.

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Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Attachment A

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