## **Diamond Williams**

From:

Mary Davis [MD@beggslane.com]

Sent:

Thursday, August 18, 2011 3:14 PM

To:

Filings@psc.state.fl.us

Cc:

Caroline Klancke; sayler.erik@leg.state.fl.us; kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us;

mcglothlin joseph@leg.state.fl.us; Keino Young; Martha Barrera; merchant.tricia@leg.state.fl.us;

Schef Wright; jmoyle@kagmlaw.com; Ritenour, Susan D.; Harris, Keith L.

Attachments: Objections Staffs 4th ROG.pdf

a. Person responsible for this electronic filing:

Steven R. Griffin
Beggs & Lane
P.O. Box 12950
501 Commendencia Street
Pensacola, FL 32576-2950
(850)432-2451
srg@beggslane.com

b. Docket 110138-El

In re: Petition for increase in rates by Gulf Power Company

- Document being filed on behalf of Gulf Power Company
- d. There are 4 pages to Gulf's Objections
- e. The document attached for electronic filing is Gulf's Objections to Staff's Fourth Interrogatories to Gulf Power (Nos. 38-46)

Mary E. Davis
Legal Assistant to Jeffrey A. Stone,
Russell A. Badders and Steven R. Griffin
Beggs & Lane
501 Commendencia Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
(850)432-2451
Fax (850)469-3331
md@beggslane.com

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### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for increase in rates by Gulf

Power Company.

Docket No. 110138-EI

Dated: August 18, 2011

# GULF POWER COMPANY'S OBJECTIONS TO STAFF'S FOURTH INTERROGATORIES TO GULF POWER (NOS. 38-46)

Pursuant to Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.206, Rule 1.340 of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Order Establishing Procedure in this matter, Gulf Power Company ("Gulf") hereby serves its objections to the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission's ("Staff") Fourth Interrogatories to Gulf Power Company (Nos. 38-46, and respectively, and together "the Requests") and states as follows:

## **GENERAL OBJECTIONS**

With respect to any "Definitions" and "Instructions" in Staff's Interrogatories, Gulf objects to any definitions or instructions that are inconsistent with Gulf's discovery obligations under applicable rules. If some question arises as to Gulf's discovery obligations, Gulf will comply with applicable rules and not with any definitions that are inconsistent with those rules. Gulf also objects to any request that calls for information that is not within the scope of discovery under the applicable rules and law. Furthermore, Gulf objects to any definition or request that seeks to encompass persons or entities other than Gulf who are not parties to this action and thus are not subject to discovery. Information of affiliated companies, including The Southern Company, that is directly relevant to Gulf's rate request, including information regarding transactions or cost allocations among Gulf and its affiliated companies may be provided, upon request. Otherwise, no responses to the requests will be made on behalf of persons or entities other than Gulf. Gulf objects to any request that calls for Gulf to perform analyses that it has not otherwise performed in support of its case and would not normally

1

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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perform in the ordinary course of its business because there is no such requirement under the applicable rules and law. Additionally, Gulf generally objects to Staff's requests to the extent that they call for information protected by the attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine, the accountant-client privilege, the trade secret privilege, or any other applicable privilege or protection afforded by law. Gulf will provide a privilege log in accordance with the applicable law or as may be agreed to by the parties to the extent, if at all, that any request calls for the production of privileged or protected information.

Further, in certain circumstances, Gulf may determine upon investigation and analysis that information responsive to certain requests to which objections are not otherwise asserted is confidential and proprietary and should be produced only under an appropriate confidentiality request. By agreeing to provide such information in response to such a request, Gulf is not waiving its right to insist upon appropriate protection of confidentiality. Gulf hereby asserts its right to require such protection of any and all information that may qualify for protection under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, the Order Establishing Procedure, and all other applicable statutes, rules and legal principles.

Gulf generally objects to Staff's interrogatories to the extent that they call for the production of documents on the ground that such a request is beyond the scope of Rule 1.340 of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. In addition, Gulf reserves the right to supplement any of its responses to Staff's interrogatories if Gulf cannot produce documents immediately due to their magnitude and the work required to aggregate them, or if Gulf later discovers additional responsive documents in the course of this proceeding.

Gulf also objects to any request that calls for projected data or information beyond the vear 2012 because such data or information is irrelevant to this case and has no bearing on this

proceeding, nor is such data or information likely to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

By making these general objections at this time, Gulf does not waive or relinquish its right to assert additional general and specific objections to Staff's discovery at the time Gulf's response is due under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and the Order Establishing Procedure. Gulf provides these general objections at this time to comply with the intent of the Order Establishing Procedure to reduce the delay in identifying and resolving any potential discovery disputes.

Respectfully submitted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

JEFFREY A. STONE
Florida Bar No. 325953
RUSSELL A. BADDERS
Florida Bar No. 007455
STEVEN R. GRIFFIN
Florida Bar No. 627569
Beggs & Lane
P. O. Box 12950
501 Commendencia Street
Pensacola, FL 32576-2950
(850) 432-2451

### **CHARLES A. GUYTON**

Florida Bar No. 398039 Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe Street, Suite 618 Tallahassee, FL 32301 (850) 521-1980

## RICHARD D. MELSON

Florida Bar No. 201243
705 Piedmont Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 894-1351
Attorneys for Gulf Power Company

BY: s/ Steven R. Griffin Steven R. Griffin Fla. Bar No. 627569

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished electronically and via U.S. Mail this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011 to all counsel of record as indicated below:

Martha Barrera/ Caroline Klancke/ Keino Young Office of the General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399 Office of Public Counsel
J. R. Kelly/Joseph A. McGlothlin/
Eric Sayler
c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street, Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

BY: s/Steven R. Griffin Steven R. Griffin Fla. Bar No. 627569