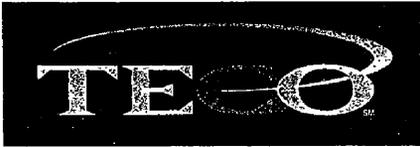


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July 16, 2003

Mr. Timothy J. Devlin, Director  
Division of Economic Regulation  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 030001-EI – Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause and GPIF

Dear Mr. Devlin:

This is in response to your letter of July 11, 2003 concerning Tampa Electric's request for proposals (RFP) for waterborne coal transportation. Following the July 1 meeting with Staff and interested parties, Tampa Electric promptly notified recipients of its RFP of the misprint contained in the "Required Terminal Transportation Services" portion of the RFP. Having made that correction, Tampa Electric reaffirms its belief that the RFP the company has issued is fully descriptive of Tampa Electric's waterborne coal transportation needs, particularly for those who compete in the waterborne transportation industry. Based on its own knowledge and experience and the advice of its expert consultant, Tampa Electric is confident that its RFP will generate a significant interest and consideration from potential transportation providers, and the resulting proposals will be afforded careful consideration as is stated in the RFP.

Tampa Electric believes that any further modification or purported clarification of the RFP at this time would not stimulate greater participation of potential service providers but could, in fact, confuse the RFP process and discourage proposals that might otherwise be forthcoming. Accordingly, the company will adhere to its pending RFP. The company believes that, as the

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process is concluded, the Staff and the Commission will be satisfied that the company's RFP was, in fact, informative and productive.

Sincerely,



Deirdre A. Brown  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
TECO Energy

cc: Mary Bane  
Harold McLean  
Commissioner Braulio Baez, Docket Prehearing Officer  
Parties of Record  
Division of Commission Clerk & Administrative Services ✓