

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for Approval of) DOCKET NO. 951313-EI
Tariff Revision to Permit Use of) ORDER NO. PSC-96-0024-FOF-EI
Meter Pulses for Billing by Gulf) ISSUED: January 8, 1996
Power Company.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
JOE GARCIA
JULIA L. JOHNSON
DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISION

BY THE COMMISSION:

On November 3, 1995, Gulf Power Company (Gulf or the Company) filed a Petition for Approval of Tariff Revision to Permit Use of Meter Pulses for Billing. The Company requested a revision to Tariff Sheet 4.16.

Meter pulses are often provided to large customers for use in the customer's energy management systems. The use of meter pulses for billing appears to depend on the sophistication of the utility's billing system. Until now, Gulf's billing system required translation of the meter pulses to KW readings prior to bill computation. The Company now maintains that upgrades to its billing system allow the direct reading of meter pulse data and the conversion to KW is no longer required.

Gulf asserts that direct reading of pulses by the billing system is a more efficient and accurate method of bill computation and should have no effect on current customers' billing determinants. The tariff revision allows for billing to be done on either the Company's meter pulse data or the Company's KW meter readings. Readings for customers without pulse data equipment will continue to be quantified in KW. We approve Gulf's use meter pulses to calculate energy usage for billing purposes where applicable.

Each utility makes its own decision whether to use meter pulse data for billing. We have approved a similar request by Tampa Electric to use meter pulse data in addition to KW readings for

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billing purposes in Docket No. 941249-EI, Order No. PSC-95-0108-FOF-EI. The other investor-owned utilities have not requested the use of meter pulse data for billing.

Based on the foregoing, it is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Gulf Power Company's petition for changes to its Tariff Sheet 4.16 is hereby approved as discussed in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the effective date of the tariff revision approved herein is December 19, 1995.

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below, the tariff shall remain in effect with any increase in revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 8th day of January, 1996.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay Flynn
Chief, Bureau of Records

(S E A L)

SLE

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), 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

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should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on January 29, 1996.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this Order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the date this Order becomes final, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.