BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition on behalf of Citizens of the State of Florida to require Progress Energy Florida, Inc. to refund to customers \$143 million DOCKET NO. 060658 Submitted for filing: January 16, 2007



CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF ALBERT W. PITCHER
ON BEHALF OF
PROGRESS ENERGY FLORIDA

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IN RE: PETITION ON BEHALF OF CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO REQUIRE PROGRESS ENERGY FLORIDA, INC. TO REFUND CUSTOMERS \$143 MILLION

FPSC DOCKET NO. 060658

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

ALBERT W. PITCHER

I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

-	1	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
	2	A.	My name is Albert W. Pitcher. My business address is: 1715 Georgia Avenue, NE,
-	3		St. Petersburg, Florida 33703-4320.
-	4 5	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
•	6	A.	I recently retired as Vice President of Coal Procurement for Progress Fuels
	7		Corporation (PFC). I am currently self-employed as a consultant.
-	8		
_	9	Q.	Please describe your educational background and professional experience.
	10	A.	I received a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Accounting from the
-	11		University of Cincinnati in 1971. I began my professional career with Arthur
_	12		Anderson and Company as a staff auditor. I was employed by Cincinnati Gas &
-	13		Electric Company in various auditing and accounting functions from 1972 until 1976.
-	14		I began my career with Florida Power Corporation (FPC), now known as Progress
	15		Energy Florida ("PEF" or the "Company"), as a staff auditor in the Audit Services
-	16		Department in August of 1976. In 1977, I joined Electric Fuels Corporation (EFC),

then a wholly owned subsidiary of FPC, as Manager of Accounting. I served in this capacity and that of EFC's Controller until 1984. At that time, I became Vice President of Sales, charged with the responsibility for selling coal to utilities and industrial customers in the Eastern United States, from both EFC's affiliated mining operations and third-party resources. In September of 2002, following the change of EFC's name to PFC, I assumed the position of Vice President of Coal Procurement. In this capacity, I was responsible for the procurement and transportation of coal delivered annually to PEF's Crystal River plant site. I retired from PFC December 1, 2005.

For ease of reference only, I will refer to both FPC and PEF as "PEF" and both EFC and PFC as "PFC," although they were clearly different legal entities.

II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Q.

A.

What is the purpose of your testimony?

The purpose of my testimony is three-fold. First, I will explain the coal procurement process and resulting decisions during my tenure as PFC's Vice President of Coal Procurement and demonstrate that PFC and the Company acted reasonably and prudently under the circumstances that existed at the time. In doing so, I will also address the inaccurate statements of fact made about the coal procurement process and decisions under my watch by Mr. Robert Sansom in his testimony on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel and correct them. I will also further address the statements and opinions first expressed by Mr. Sansom in his affidavit in last year's fuel recovery

docket and now in his testimony here regarding certain contracts that resulted from the solicitations conducted by PFC on PEF's behalf in August-September 2004, again demonstrating that PFC and the Company acted reasonably and prudently under the circumstances.

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Second, I will address Mr. Sansom's testimony regarding the synfuel purchases by the Company and the misimpression created by Mr. Sansom's testimony that the tax credits available to Progress Energy Inc. (Progress Energy) somehow drove PEF's decisions to purchase synfuel for Crystal River Units 4 and 5 (CR4 and CR5). PFC was the primary player in the synfuel industry and therefore was sought out by others who wanted to enter the synfuel market for its expertise in all aspects of the industry, from production through sales. It is hardly unusual, then, that when PEF began to look at synfuel purchases, PFC or an affiliate of PFC may be involved in some way in some of the synfuel transactions with PEF. As the Vice President of Sales for PFC during most of the years that synfuel was purchased by PEF, however, I know that synfuel was sold at a price below bituminous coal prices and was purchased by utilities and industrial customers only on a contract or spot basis when the synfuel was more economical than other bituminous coal products. Also, PEF was not the largest or even close to the largest purchaser of synfuel during this period of time. As a result, only a very small percentage of the tax credits available to Progress Energy could have been generated by synfuel sales to PEF.

Finally, I will address a number of other statements made by Mr. Sansom that are simply inaccurate or give a misleading impression of the coal procurement practices and decisions by PFC and PEF when I served as PFC's Vice President of

1		Coal Procurement. In sum, PFC and PEF always employed reasonable and prudent
2		practices under the existing circumstances consistent with its policies and Commission
3		orders.
4		
5	Q.	Are you sponsoring any exhibits with your testimony?
6	A.	Yes, I am sponsoring the following exhibits that were prepared by me or prepared
7		under my supervision and control, or they represent business records prepared at or
8		near the time of the events recorded in the records, which records it was a regular
9		practice for me or those who worked with me to keep to perform our responsibilities:
10		• Exhibit No (AWP-1), which is PFC's coal procurement policy in
11		effect when I assumed responsibilities for coal procurement for Crystal
12		River;
13		• Exhibit No (AWP-2), which are PFC's evaluation sheets for the bids
14		received in response to the July 3, 2003 Request for Proposals ("RFP") for
15		coal for CR4 and CR5;
16		• Exhibit No (AWP-3), which is my October 2, 2003 memorandum
17		explaining the results of the July 3, 2003 RFP and PFC's evaluation of that
18		RFP;
19		• Exhibit No (AWP-4), which is the April 12, 2004 RFP for coal for
20		CR4 and CR5;
21		• Exhibit No (AWP-5), which is the RFP bidder list indicating the
22		bidders who received the April 12, 2004 RFP and whether they responded;

1		• Exhibit No (AWP-6), which is my June 22, 2004 memorandum
2		explaining the April 12, 2004 RFP and PFC's evaluation of that RFP; and
3		• Exhibit No (AWP-7), which is the May 13, 2004 test report on the
4		Powder River Basin (PRB) sub bituminous and bituminous coals blend at
5		CR4 in late April 2004.
6		All of these exhibits are true and correct.
7		
8	Q.	Please summarize your testimony.
9	A.	PFC consistently evaluated coals for CR4 and CR5 on a competitive basis during my
10		tenure as the Vice President for Coal Procurement. All coal procurement decisions
11		during this time period, from 2003 to 2005, were made based on competitive RFPs or
12		spot markets for the lowest cost coal consistent with the quality specifications required
13		for plant operations at CR4 and CR5. In each case, PFC acted reasonably and
14		prudently in its coal procurement decisions for CR4 and CR5.
15		I evaluated PRB beginning in 2003 when it became evident that PRB coals
16		might be economical for CR4 and CR5. In the July 2003 RFP solicitation, however,
17		foreign bituminous coals of the same or similar high quality coals historically burned
18		at CR4 and CR5 proved to be more economical. Because these import coals did not
19		present the same quality issues that would impact plant handling and performance as
20		the PRB coals, they further were the clear choice at the time for CR4 and CR5. I,
21		nevertheless, continued to follow PRB coal prices, and when they moved up at a

slower rate than domestic and foreign coals later in 2003, I sought to purchase some

PRB coal for a test burn at CR4 or CR5. This is standard industry practice when it

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comes to evaluating different coals than those historically purchased and burned at a coal plant, especially as was the case for CR4 and CR5, when the quality of the coal is important to the historical base load energy production from the plant.

That test burn was conducted the same month as a subsequent RFP for future coal needs at CR4 and CR5 in April 2004. Both the test burn report on the limited, single ocean-barge test of a small blend of PRB and bituminous coal in April 2004, and the results of the April 2004 RFP, where PRB coals were the most economical coals on a delivered and evaluated or busbar cost basis, indicated that the further evaluation of PRB coals was warranted to decide if the Company should shift from bituminous compliance coals to PRB coals or a blend of bituminous compliance coals and PRB coals. I understand that evaluation has been undertaken by the Company following the 2004 test burn and 2004 RFP. In the meantime, while the Company's evaluation of this type of significant coal switch was on-going, PFC continued to purchase the lowest priced, high quality bituminous coal for CR4 and CR5 available under existing market conditions.

PFC further purchased synfuel bituminous-based coals when they were the lowest priced coals consistent with the quality specifications for CR4 and CR5. Synfuels were always offered at or below bituminous compliance coal prices on the market because available tax credits to the synfuel producers offset losses on the production and sale of synfuel. As a result, the ratepayer benefited from such purchases. Simply put, then, I sold synfuel to PFC for CR4 and CR5 when I was told it was the lowest cost source under the current market conditions. At the same time I was selling a lot more synfuel to other utilities and industrial customers. When I did

not make a synfuel sale for CR4 and CR5, which did occur, I simply sold the synfuel to someone else. PEF was in no way the largest synfuel customer; it was not even close. III. COAL PROCUREMENT FOR CR4 AND CR5: 2003-2005 Q. When did you assume the role of coal procurement for CR4 and CR5? I became Vice President of Procurement for PFC around September 2002 but the A. decisions for the coal needed at the Crystal River coal units for 2002 and some of 2003 had already been made. I assumed the job with the responsibility for meeting the

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Q. Can you explain the process that you applied when determining what to do to meet PEF's coal requirements for Crystal River?

coal requirements for CR1, CR2, CR4, and CR5 for the rest of 2003 and beyond.

Yes. First, PEF provided me with the expected tons of coal that would be burned for the year for both sets of coal units, CR1 and CR2, and CR4 and CR5. CR1 and CR2 burned a different type of higher sulfur coal (i.e., greater than 1.5 lbs./mmBtu SO2 but less than 2.1 lbs./MMBtu) than CR4 and CR5 which burned a low sulfur coal sometimes referred to as compliance coal (i.e., 1.2 lbs/MMBtu SO2 or less). Within PFC and PEF we referred to the coal for CR1 and CR2 as "A" or Alpha coal and the coal for CR4 and CR5 as "D" or Delta coal. The information on the tons of coal required for CR1 and CR2 and CR4 and CR5 was typically provided in the fall of the

prior year. Additionally, updates on the projected burns were provided throughout the year, generally quarterly.

Once I had the expected requirements for both the A and D coals, the next step was to determine the tons of A and D coal currently under contract and whether those contracts expired or had price reopeners the next year. If the contracts had price reopeners, and depending on the terms of the contract, PFC might need to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the type of coal under the contract or initiate a review of market prices for similar coal to negotiate the price for the next or remaining contract term. Next we reviewed the projected inventory levels to determine if it was necessary to either increase or decrease them depending upon various operational considerations. The amount of coal under contract and any inventory increases or decreases were netted against the expected coal requirements for the year, providing the tons available for purchase.

The next step in the process was to determine whether an RFP or reliance on the spot market was appropriate given the amount of coal tons needed and the current and anticipated market conditions. As a general rule, a spot purchase was for a term of a year or less and generally involved lower amounts of tons purchased than contract purchases. Contract purchases were for a year or more and generally were for larger tonnage. PFC and the Company favored a mixture of contract and spot purchases to maintain some flexibility to respond to changes in coal market conditions. This policy has been consistently followed by the Company since CR4 and CR5 came on line in 1982 and 1984, respectively, as evidenced by EFC's coal procurement policy attached as Exhibit No. ___ (AWP-1).

A final consideration was whether the tons of coal already under contract were being provided to Crystal River by rail or by water and by what means, rail or water, the tons available for purchase could be provided. When I assumed the responsibilities for coal procurement for Crystal River, transportation by rail was generally cheaper than water so my practice was to maximize rail shipments. This remained the case until the CSX contract expired and had to be renegotiated in 2004, after which time under the new CSX contract, rail was actually more expensive than water transportation so we began to maximize water transportation of coal to Crystal River.

The practice of maximizing rail deliveries when it was the most economical means of coal delivery was consistent with a prior Commission order requiring the Company to maximize rail transportation. The ability to maximize rail shipments also depended on what type of coal was needed, where the mine was located, and the capabilities of providing coal by rail or water from that location.

A. THE JULY 2003 SOLICITATION.

- Q. When did you first issue an RFP for coal for Crystal River?
- 19 A. On July 3, 2003, I issued on PEF's behalf an RFP for A and D coal for Crystal River 20 for one, two, and three year proposals.

Q. Why did PFC issue an RFP for coal for Crystal River on July 3, 2003?

At the time, PFC had eight contracts with price reopeners and we were beginning to review the coal needs for 2004 and beyond. Under the terms of the contracts, we needed to determine the market prices for coal to re-negotiate the price and to determine if we were going to extend the contracts. Five of these contracts were for D coal and three were for A coal. Also, PFC wanted to determine if the market prices justified contracts of one, two, or three years for coals for Crystal River.

Q. What were the market conditions in 2003?

A. The coal price market was very volatile. After the price spikes and tight supply with virtually all types of coal in 2001, as well as most other fuels, coal prices had fallen in 2002 and production and coal supplies were improving. In 2003, then, it was unclear whether coal prices were going to fall to price levels that existed prior to 2001, stabilize around 2002 price levels, or again start to rise given the uncertainties surrounding future production efficiencies and supply, demand, and world economic issues.

A.

Q. What were your objectives in the July 3, 2003 RFP?

The anticipated coal burn at Crystal River in 2004 was 2.2 million tons for CR1 and CR2 and 3.9 million tons at CR4 and CR5 for a total of 6.1 million tons of coal. As I have indicated, we had eight contracts with price re-openers in 2003, five D coal and three A coal contracts, that we were contractually obligated to renegotiate. Together with those renegotiations our purchase strategy was to eventually achieve a coal supply of a 70-75% contract and 25-30% spot, if possible. Again, another objective

was to maximize our rail deliveries, which were 3.6 to 4.1 million tons a year under

PFC's contract with CSX.

Q. What was the response to the July 3, 2003 RFP?

A. We received a total of 42 bids from 21 domestic and foreign coal suppliers. With the options under some of the bids the total count of different types of bids in response to the RFP was 75 bids.

Q. How did you evaluate the bids?

We grouped the bids by (1) all bids together, (2) CR1 and CR2 bids, (3) CR4 and CR5 bids, (4) CR4 and CR5 bids segregated by rail and water, and (5) CR4 and CR5 bids segregated by domestic and foreign coals. These groupings allowed us to review the relative pricing between rail, water, domestic, foreign, CR4 and CR5, and CR1 and CR2. Within each group of bids we also divided up the bids between single or multi-year offers. We also reviewed various trade publications, regarding coal market pricing, such as United Coal, Evolution, and Henwood Energy Services, which provides prices for various qualities of coal for any given period of time, both currently and prospectively. We will do this to see if the coal prices we are offered in the bids are within a range of prices estimated for the market by the trade publications.

In each grouping we looked at the top several bids, thus creating a "short list" evaluation. There was no set limit on the number of bids that would be placed on a "short list," rather it depended on the total amount of coal which was required for

purchase based upon the projected burns, required changes in inventory levels, and contract expirations.

With respect to each bid, PFC evaluated it upon a delivered cost and evaluated cost basis. The delivered cost included the commodity cost (\$/ton) offered by the bidder and PFC's cost of transporting the coal to the Crystal River Plant. The evaluated cost, also called the busbar analysis cost or total cost, compares the characteristics of the coal offered in each bid against the coal specification standard for either the CR4 and CR5 units or the CR1 and CR2 units. The standard coal specification for the respective units is based on coal characteristics that provide optimal efficient plant performance. The evaluated ("busbar" or "total") cost is used because it provides a more complete picture of the bids submitted by incorporating into the bid evaluation consideration of the quality of the coal offered. Because coals have different heat input values, the delivered cost and evaluated cost are converted to dollars per mmBtu so the bids can be evaluated on an equal basis with respect to the Btu content of the coal.

PFC has typically ranked and purchased coal based on the lowest delivered cost but that is because historically the quality of the coal at the lowest delivered cost did not differ significantly from the quality expected under the standard specification for coal for the respective units. More recently, however, PFC is seeing more economical coal than before with quality characteristics that vary more from the standard coal specifications, particularly for CR4 and CR5, thus, providing more opportunity for the evaluated cost to have an impact on the evaluation of the bids.

1 Q. What is the evaluated or busbar cost analysis?

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The evaluated or busbar cost analysis is based on an Electric Power Research Institute ("EPRI") Coal Quality Impact computer Model ("CQIM") that assesses the performance of the coal in the boilers of CR1, CR2, CR4, and CR5. The EPRI CQIM model was developed by Black & Veatch and is recognized as an industry standard for coal procurement evaluations. The characteristics of the coal offered in the bid are inputs into the model and the outputs are the model's assessment of the cost impacts to the Company if coal with the quality characteristics of that coal is burned in the respective units' boilers.

The model assessment of the cost impacts of variations in the quality of the coal in the bid from the standard specification is a "black box" to PFC. The cost impacts were developed by Black & Veatch based on industry standard cost impacts. The coal quality characteristics considered in the model for bid evaluation purposes are the ash, BTU, sulfur, moisture, and volatile content characteristics of the coal. The evaluated cost output includes the delivered cost plus an assessment for variations from the standard specification for ash (\$.30/1.0% above 10%), BTU (\$.10/100 BTU above or below 12000), sulfur (based upon current SO2 allowance prices) below the 1.2lbs. SO2 maximum allowed for CR4 and CR5 and lower SO2 than the allowed 1.5lbs. SO2 to 2.1lbs. SO2 for CR1 and CR2, moisture (\$.10/1.0% above 8%), and volatile content (\$1.00 below 31%). Another way to look at the evaluated or busbar cost analysis is that it is a "paper" test burn of the coal in the units' boilers.

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1	Q.	Have you ever rejected a bid based on a deviation from any of the specifications
2		set forth in the standard coal specification for CR4 and CR5?
3	A.	Yes. In response to the July 3, 2003 RFP we received two bids from Alpha for
4		compliance coal by rail to CR4 and CR5 with a 28% volatility characteristic, which
5		was significantly below the 31% volatility specification for CR4 and CR5 coal.
6		Volatility is an important coal characteristic because it can affect the flame stability of
7		the units. As a result of this significant deviation from the standard volatility
8		specification for CR4 and CR5 we eliminated the Alpha bids from further
9		consideration. This is reflected in the evaluations sheets for the July 3, 2003 RFP in
10		Exhibit No (AWP-2) at the page bearing bates number PEF-FUEL-004772.
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12	Q.	Are there any other considerations in the bid evaluation besides the delivered
13		cost and evaluated cost?
14	A.	Yes, there are. Other important considerations include prior experience with the
15		bidder, whether the bidder is a broker or a coal producer, and prior experience with the
16		type of coal offered in the bid.
17		Prior experience with a bidder and whether the bidder is a broker or the actual
18		coal supplier is important in determining whether the bidder will reliably deliver the
19		coal offered in a timely manner and consistent with the quality of the coal offered.

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broker; PFC has had very good experience with coal provided through carefully selected brokers.

Finally, prior experience with the type of coal offered in the bid is important to the plant operations. If there is a new supplier or a new type of coal or a coal from a new mine, the plant operators are always wary of using that coal without first conducting a test burn because of the uncertainties surrounding the effect of the coal on the efficient operation of the plant and production of electric energy. These considerations are not new to the July 2003 RFP evaluation, however, they have been a factor in the coal evaluations for decades, see Exhibit ____ (AWP-1).

Q. What were the results of your evaluation of the bids for coal for CR4 and CR5 in

the July 3, 2003 RFP?

A.

With respect to compliance coal available by rail, we reviewed 6 single year and 4 multi-year bids. The lowest single year bid was a price reopener on an existing contract with AEP so the next lowest bidder on both the single and multi-year offers was Koch Carbon at \$34.25/ton to \$34.50/ton on the single year and \$35.05/ton on the multi-year offers. When I subsequently went to negotiate with Koch Carbon requesting an offer of \$33.75/ton for 2004, however, Koch Carbon raised any number of excuses, including a problem with PFC's credit, as to why Koch Carbon could not offer that price or the coal at the prices in their bids. Koch wanted a parent guarantee which the Company does not provide to any coal supplier. The real issue here was the market was volatile and prices were moving up and they were looking for any excuse not to honor their bid. After several fruitless discussions, I determined that Koch was

not going to meet its bid offers and decided to remove them from our active bidders list because of their failure to stand behind their bids. Koch is a broker of coal. This is an example where the lack of experience with a bidder proved problematic and resulted in the elimination of the bidder because there was no assurance the bidder was reliable.

As a result, I turned to the next lowest bidder, Dominion (because the Alpha coal bids had been eliminated because of the volatility of the coal offered), and entered into a one year contract for 120,000 tons of D coal by rail. Dominion is a major utility in Virginia and has a non-regulated coal brokerage group. The coal was shipped from an existing supplier's mine and was therefore known to be an excellent quality coal from a known, reliable supplier.

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Q. Why did you call Koch Carbon and ask them for a better price?

It is our typical practice to contact bidders on the "short list" and negotiate for a lower price to get the best deal we could get for the Company and the customer. This is also a standard practice in the industry so from a buyer's perspective you do not necessarily expect that the bid price offered in response to an RFP is the best that the supplier can or will do if the bidder makes the short list.

A.

Q. What about the remaining bids for compliance coal by water, what were the results of your evaluation of those bids?

The foreign or import compliance coals evaluated better than the domestic compliance coals. This was expected because the market indications at the time suggested that

import compliance coal was very competitive. Guasare, a supplier of Venezuelan compliance coal, tied for the second lowest bid on a delivered cost and a nearly identical evaluated cost with Glencore, a Columbian compliance coal supplier on the single year bid and Guasare was the second lowest bidder on the multi-year bid. Because Guasare was both a current and previous supplier, had delivered excellent quality coal in the past, and was the actual producer, where Glencore was a broker of foreign coals with no previous history, we entered into discussions for a contract with Guasare. This is an example where prior experience with a supplier was a factor in the bid evaluation. We extended the single-year bid, which was lower in price to the multi-year offer, into a two-year contract with Guasare for 250,000 and 150,000 tons, respectively. We also entered into a contract based on the Guasare multi-year bid for 650,000 tons for 2004 and 2005 with a price reopener for 2006. As a result, import compliance coal accounted for 43% of the water delivered coal in 2004 and 38% of the water delivered coal in 2005 to Crystal River. Our bid evaluation sheets are included in Exhibit No. (AWP-2) and my October 2, 2003 memorandum, with exhibits, explaining the results of the July 3, 2003 RFP and our evaluation of the bids in response to that RFP is included in Exhibit No. ___(AWP-3) to my testimony. Does Mr. Sansom agree that the import coal purchases as a result of the July 3, 2003 RFP were economical? Yes, he does. At page 34, lines 19 to 21 of his testimony Mr. Sansom admits that we

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made economical purchases of imported coal for 2003 and later years "under earlier

contracts, increasing our reliance on imported coal from 30% in 2003 to 48% in 2004

and 2005." This is a reference to the Guasare contracts that were the result of the July 3, 2003 RFP.

Ironically, Mr. Sansom's argument that PFC should have been purchasing PRB coal conflicts with his statement that these import coal purchases were economical purchases. Both import coals and PRB coals are only economical for CR4 and CR5 when delivered by water, and since Mr. Sansom would have PFC purchase these import coals and PRB coals in the same time period, PFC could not deliver both by water with the existing constraints on waterborne transportation to Crystal River. PFC would, under Mr. Sansom's argument, either have to purchase less PRB coals to maintain the waterborne import coal shipments or displace the economical import coals with higher priced CAPP coal by rail. Mr. Sansom does not account for either possible impact in his testimony that I can see.

Q.

A.

- You mentioned that the import coal purchased was not the lowest import bid in response to the July 3, 2003 RFP. Why didn't you buy coal from the lowest import bidder?
- The lowest import bidder on a delivered cost and an evaluated cost basis was the Drummond Columbian coal for both the single and multi-year options. However, the Drummond Columbian coal was a low Btu (11,700 Btu) and high moisture (14%) coal and the plant operators at CR4 and CR5 were concerned with a potential de-rate of the CR4 and CR5 units if they burned the Drummond coal. The plant operators wanted to test the Drummond coal before any decision was made to purchase significant tons of the Drummond coal.

2 Q. What do you mean by a "de-rate" of the plant?

A. A de-rate is a loss of load or the electric energy produced by the CR4 and CR5 units.

While I am not an engineer, I do know that the lower the Btu content per ton of coal

the less electric energy you obtain from burning that ton. Also, the higher the

moisture content, the more effort and heat that must be used to dry the coal to burn it

and if heat is being used to dry the coal it cannot be used to produce electric energy.

There are, of course, other characteristics about the quality of a particular coal besides

Btu and moisture content that can have an impact on the electrical energy output of a

A.

coal unit.

Q. Do you know why the plant operators at CR4 and CR5 were concerned about "de-rates?"

Yes. CR4 and CR5 are base load units on the Company's system that together account for nearly half the base load energy production on PEF's generation system. They routinely produce between 750 and 770 gross megawatts (MW) a piece even though they are rated only for 665MW for each unit because the operators run them very efficiently, generally in over-pressure operation, day in and day out and only come off-line for maintenance. Because CR4 and CR5 are very efficient, base load generators the quality of the coal burned there and the operational characteristics of handling the coal for CR4 and CR5 are very important. The goal of the CR4 and CR5 units is to maintain the highly efficient operation of the units to generate between 750MW and 770MW gross on a regular basis. As a result, I had to take this

operational goal into account in making coal procurement decisions for CR4 and CR5. 1 Therefore, I did not purchase the Drummond import coal without testing it first. The 2 Drummond coal was subsequently tested successfully at the plant and we later entered 3 into contracts with Drummond for compliance coal. 4 5

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Why did you need a test burn if the Drummond coal had evaluated the lowest on 6 Q. 7 both the delivered cost and evaluated cost basis?

The evaluated cost or busbar cost analysis only provides an indication of how the coal will burn in the boilers, based on the EPRI CQIM computer model. It is a useful tool to eliminate coals from consideration if, even on an evaluated basis under the CQIM cost assessment, their costs are significantly higher than the delivered cost and evaluated costs of other coals being evaluated, but the model was not intended to and cannot determine the actual cost impact of burning the coal at the plant. To make that determination, a test burn or series of test burns will be required, depending on how different the coal is from the type of coal typically burned at the plant and represented in the standard specification. The process of conducting coal test burns is not an unusual or atypical process when changes in the types of coal are being considered; rather, this process is standard practice in the industry.

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Q. Is that why you indicated you were evaluating western coals separately for test burn purposes only in your July 2003 RFP?

Yes. The reference to western coals referred to sub bituminous coal from the Powder River Basin (also called PRB coals). I knew that the CR4 and CR5 boilers were

designed for both bituminous and sub bituminous coal and that PFC had long included sub bituminous coal specifications in its RFPs and PRB suppliers on its RFP bidder lists so that the PRB suppliers received RFPs for coal for Crystal River. I also knew, however, that the PRB coals had not previously been burned at CR4 and CR5 and that, because of the characteristics of PRB coal, there would be a number of operational concerns with handling and burning PRB coal.

These PRB coal characteristics include its lower Btu content and its higher moisture content, as well as the fact that PRB is dustier than bituminous coal and susceptible to spontaneous combustion. As a result, a buyer for a plant that historically burned bituminous coal must buy more PRB tons to get the same Btu output it currently obtains from bituminous coal both because of the lower Btu content and higher moisture content of the PRB coal. The buyer must also invest in additional capital and operational and maintenance improvements just to handle the PRB coal, and must invest in maintenance improvements in the boiler as well for the PRB coal because of higher slagging and other factors. These impacts are best determined by test burns to see how the plant performs with the PRB coals.

Based on information available about the bituminous and sub bituminous coal markets before and at the time I prepared the July 2003 RFP, I thought that the timing might be right to consider western coals for a test burn at CR4 and CR5, if they proved to be economical in response to the 2003 solicitation.

Q. Did you purchase any PRB coal in response to the July 2003 RFP for test burn purposes?

No, I did not. While the PRB coal evaluated well on a delivered cost basis, the PRB coal did not evaluate well on an evaluated cost basis against the import bituminous compliance coals. The clear message from the bid responses to the July 2003 RFP was that import coals were the most economical sources of coal for CR4 and CR5. With the import coals, PFC was receiving the same type of high quality, high Btu content, bituminous coal that had successfully been burned on a highly efficient and productive basis historically at CR4 and CR5, thus allowing the units to continue to produce MWs substantially above their rated capacity. If the import prices remained this competitive after the July 2003 RFP there was no reason to look to a distinctly different type of coal like the PRB coals for the CR4 and CR5 units.

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Q. Are you aware that Mr. Sansom claims the PRB coals were the lowest price coals in response to the 2003 RFP and that PFC ignored them?

Yes, but Mr. Sansom is looking only at the delivered cost numbers and ignoring the evaluated cost numbers for the PRB coals. As I have indicated, the evaluated cost numbers were important in the evaluation of the PRB coal because PRB was a new type of coal and something that the plant had no prior experience with. The operators at CR4 and CR5 had required a test burn for the Drummond coal even though it was a bituminous coal and there generally are not significant differences in the characteristics of bituminous coal. The operators, nevertheless, had no prior experience with Drummond or its coal and were concerned about the impacts on the plant of the lower Btu content and higher moisture content of the Drummond coal than the bituminous coal they were used to burning. I fully expected the plant would have

greater concerns when considering a switch from bituminous compliance coal to the sub bituminous compliance coals like PRB.

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Q. What about the western bituminous coal suppliers who responded to the July 2003 RFP, why did PFC not enter into a contract with those two potential suppliers?

7 A. PFC did not select the western bituminous coal suppliers who responded to the July 8 2003 RFP primarily because of concerns regarding reported rail delivery problems 9 with coal deliveries in the west. Coal market publications had included numerous 10 reports about delays in and the failure to deliver contracted for coal due to a lack of 11 rail capacity (cars and engineers) and rail congestion. These were significant concerns 12 at the time, as several buyers received late, reduced, or no shipments at all of coal as a 13 result of these problems. These problems continued to plague the western coal 14 markets from 2003 to 2005. As a result of the non-performance by the western 15 railroads, it was reported in the coal publications that buyers were re-entering the volatile coal market at the time to ensure they maintained sufficient inventory levels. I 16 17 did not want PFC to be in the same position.

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Q. Now, turning to the domestic water bidders, did you end up making any compliance coal purchases from domestic suppliers as a result of the July 3, 2003 RFP?

No, I did not. As I have stated, the foreign compliance coals evaluated ahead of the domestic compliance coals, so we entered into negotiations and ultimately contracts with an import supplier.

A.

We did, of course, evaluate the domestic compliance coals that were offered. In that evaluation, even though we received single-year compliance coal bids from domestic supplier by water, we concluded that none were competitive enough to place on a short list for further consideration. However, we did place three multi-year bidders, two bids from Infinity and one from Black Hawk for synfuel, on a short list for follow up.

We contacted both suppliers to determine if they could improve their bid prices. Infinity had offered their coal subject to prior sale and, when contacted, Infinity had already sold the coal. I also called Black Hawk and tried to get them to give me a better price. They rejected my attempt and noted that at the time they had not secured a coal source but, even if they had, they indicated they had better alternatives than selling the coal or synfuel to PFC at a price lower than what they had originally bid.

After that response I called Central Coal, which originally was not on the short list for domestic compliance coal by water because of its price, to see if Central Coal might improve its bid. Central Coal could not improve its bid price. As a result, I made no purchases of domestic coal or synfuel as a result of the July 3, 2003 RFP. I have attached the bid evaluation sheets, including the short lists, to my testimony as Exhibit No. ____ (AWP-2) and my memorandum summarizing the results of the bid evaluation and the coal purchases made as Exhibit No. ____ (AWP-3). These exhibits

1		and my notes contained in them explain the evaluation process and decisions that were
2		made.
3		
4	Q.	Have you read what Mr. Sansom had to say about your evaluation of the
5		domestic compliance coal bids in response to the July 3, 2003 RFP?
6	A.	Yes. Mr. Sansom, at pages 32 and 33 of his testimony, claims that the evaluation is an
7		"example of favoritism," a "conflict of interest," and was "imprudent." As his sole
8		support he (1) asserts PFC did not act "promptly" enough to purchase the coal offered
9		by the lowest domestic supplier, (2) refers to the call made to Blackhawk to obtain a
10		lower bid price and the fact that Blackhawk had no coal under contract to supply at the
11		time, (3) claims that some unknown "July-September transaction" was not
12		consummated leading to purchases in 2004 at higher coal prices, and (4) speculates
13		that the prior purchaser of the lowest domestic bidder (Infinity) was a "non-regulated
14		PEF affiliate synfuel plant."
15		
16	Q.	Are Mr. Sansom's assertions about the July 3, 2003 RFP evaluation accurate?
17	A.	No, they are not. First, Mr. Sansom claims that I did not act "promptly" to purchase
18		the coal offered by Infinity. Contrary to Mr. Sansom's implication that I did not
19		contact Infinity by his assertion that I "instead" offered to purchase synfuel from
20		Blackhawk, I did follow up with Infinity by phone at the same time I followed up with
21		all of the short list compliance coal suppliers by water, both foreign and domestic.
22		These contacts took place within a couple of weeks of receiving the bids, evaluating

them, and creating the short lists. I did contact Infinity, I did so promptly, and I was told Infinity no longer had the coal for sale.

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Second, Mr. Sansom claims that my contact with Blackhawk was an "example of favoritism" and a "conflict of interest." He fails to note my contacts with other bidders to get them to improve their bid prices, including Infinity, Central Coal, and Guasare (the import supplier), none of whom are affiliated in any way with PFC. In other words, I treated Blackhawk just like I treated all other bidders on the short list. Moreover, Mr. Sansom fails to explain to the Commission that PFC did not make any purchase from Blackhawk as a result of the July 3, 2003 RFP. All he suggests is that it was somehow improper for Blackhawk to offer coal that Blackhawk had not yet procured. Coal brokers occasionally do this and there is no practical difference between this and offers made subject to prior sale to other buyers, which Mr. Sansom concedes (at page 33, lines 1-2) is an "acceptable practice." Either way, the supplier does not have the coal to sell to the buyer. In fact, in my experience both on the sales and purchasing sides of our business, buyers will accept a bid even though the broker is "still lining up the coal." This is even more acceptable in a market where coal is in short supply and prices are very volatile. There is, then, no "favoritism" or "conflict of interest" in treating Blackhawk the same way other short list suppliers are treated, especially when no coal was purchased from Blackhawk in response to the July 2003 RFP.

Third, Mr. Sansom refers to some unknown, unconsummated "July-September" transaction for compliance coal by water as a result of the July 2003 RFP that he claims led to purchases in 2004 at higher prices. First, this statement ignores

the fact that PFC made significant compliance coal purchases by water from a foreign supplier as a result of the July 3, 2003 RFP. These import purchases are the very same purchases that Mr. Sansom admits at page 34, lines 19 to 21 of his testimony were economical purchases for 2004 and 2005. Further, Mr. Sansom is relying on nothing more than hindsight to suggest in his testimony now that further purchases as a result of the July 2003 RFP would have avoided higher prices later in 2004. At the time of the July 2003 RFP and RFP evaluation, the coal market was volatile and, unlike Mr. Sansom, we did not have the benefit of knowing what the 2004 coal prices would be.

Finally, Mr. Sansom asserts that "it is even possible" that the Infinity coal was bought by a "PEF affiliate synfuel plant" before PFC could purchase the coal in response to Infinity's bid in response to the July 2003 RFP. This is rank speculation on his part, I do not know who Infinity sold the coal to nor was Infinity obligated to tell me. Infinity had offered the coal subject to prior sale which meant that Infinity was free to sell the coal to anyone in the market who offered Infinity the best price for it and purchased it before we called. That includes any synfuel plant, which by the way, would have led to a lower market price for the coal because synfuel was typically sold below the market price for bituminous compliance coal. However, Mr. Sansom again misses the point that the water-borne import compliance coal bids were lower than the domestic compliance coal bids, like Infinity's, in any event, and the import coal is what PFC purchased.

1	Q.	was Mr. Sansom present for your phone call with Blackhawk, Infinity, or any
2		other supplier that you called in response to the bids submitted for the July 2003
3		RFP?
4	A.	No, he was not present.
5		
6	Q.	Did Mr. Sansom provide the Commission with the July 3, 2003 bid evaluation
7		sheets and your October 2, 2003 memorandum and exhibits summarizing and
8		explaining the bid evaluation and reasons for the purchase decisions that were
9		made?
10	A.	No, he did not, but I have done so. They are Exhibit No (AWP-2) and Exhibit
11		No(AWP-3) to my testimony.
12		
13	Q.	Is Mr. Sansom also suggesting that PFC should not have evaluated the
14		compliance coal bids based on the means, rail or water, by which the coal would
15		be delivered to Crystal River?
16	A.	He may be, because he makes a point of saying that the bids were segregated between
17		rail and water, and domestic water (which he calls affiliates or ex-affiliates) and
18		import water deliveries, in the same paragraph on page 32 in which he accuses PFC of
19		engaging in "favoritism." However, there is nothing improper in this manner of
20		evaluating the bids for the following three reasons.
21		First, this type of evaluation of the bids must be undertaken because PFC does
22		have two means of coal delivery, rail and water, to Crystal River and, therefore, for

PFC to fully evaluate all potential bid responses PFC must consider the alternative means of delivering coal to Crystal River.

Second, the Commission long ago recognized the propriety of the dual delivery mechanism for Crystal River, stating in Order No. 15895 that "we acknowledge the desirability of maintaining alternative transportation routes for the purpose of increasing reliability and enhancing price competition." Any suggestion that it is improper to evaluate the bids in part based on the delivery mechanism is inconsistent with the Commission's prior order.

Third, the cost of transporting coal by water to Crystal River, domestic or import, for all but one year of the period at issue in Mr. Sansom's testimony has been set at a market proxy price approved by the Commission and all parties to the proceeding, including OPC. Regardless of whether the "affiliated" transportation costs exceeded or fell below the market to the extent one existed at all, PFC was only allowed to pass on to PEF's customers the market proxy amount.

Finally, it is ironic that Mr. Sansom appears to take issue with the segregation of the bids by rail and water and the evaluation of them based on their cost of delivery according to the delivery mechanism because if there was no water delivery available to Crystal River there would be no way for Mr. Sansom to urge the consideration of PRB coals at Crystal River. The cost of delivering PRB coals to Crystal River by rail is uneconomical on a delivered cost basis. Mr. Sansom agrees because he purports to have all of the PRB coals he says PFC should have bought delivered by water barge to Crystal River.

	1	Ų.	with respect to the July 3, 2003 Reff, and you follow the same evaluation process
	2		and analysis for the A coal bids that you did for the D coal bids?
	3	A.	Yes.
	4		
	5	Q.	Does Mr. Sansom dispute in his testimony PFC's evaluation process and analysis
-	6		with respect to the A coal bids in response to the July 3, 2003 RFP?
_	7	Α.	No, he does not.
	8		
-	9		B. THE APRIL 2004 SOLICITATION.
_	10		
	11	Q.	When was the next solicitation you issued for coal for Crystal River?
_	12	A.	In April 2004, PFC initiated on PEF's behalf an RFP for A and D coal for Crystal
	13		River for one, two, and three years with delivery by rail or water. As before, the RFP
	14		included specifications for both bituminous and sub bituminous coal and was sent to
	15		all potential bidders on PFC's bidder list, including a number of PRB suppliers. PFC
	16		received fourteen bids for CR1 and CR 2 (A coal) and twenty-three bids for CR4 and
	17		CR5 (D coal). A copy of the April 12, 2004 RFP solicitation for CR4 and CR5 is
***	18		Exhibit No (AWP-4) to my testimony. A copy of the bidder list indicating the
-	19		bidders that received the April 12, 2004 RFP and whether they responded to the RFP
	20		is Exhibit No (AWP-5) to my testimony.
-	21		
-	22	Q.	Did you follow the same bid evaluation process for the April 2004 RFP that you
	23		did for the July 2003 RFP?

1 A. Yes, I did, and Mr. Sansom has conceded that PFC conducted a thorough solicitation
2 in 2004.
3

Q. What were the results of the evaluations of the bids in response to the April 2004 RFP?

PFC purchased 4.3 million tons of coal for both CR1 and CR2, and CR4 and CR5, as a result of the solicitation. The resulting contracts were for two years (2005 and 2006) and included three contracts each for suppliers of coal for CR1 and CR2 and CR4 and CR5. The coals purchased were those the plants had burned in the past and had historical experience with from both a handling and operational perspective. A copy of my memorandum with exhibits explaining the April 12, 2004 RFP and PFC's evaluation of that RFP is Exhibit No. ___ (AWP-6) to my testimony.

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Q. Did you receive bids from PRB suppliers in response to the April 2004 RFP?

Yes, we did, however PFC did not purchase any PRB coal, even though the prices offered by the PRB suppliers was lower than the prices offered by the bituminous compliance coal suppliers on both a delivered cost and evaluated cost basis at this time. The reason was that PEF was conducting a test burn of a small shipment of PRB coal in a 15% blend with bituminous CAPP coal in April, roughly at the same time the RFP was issued. The Company had just received the report of the results of that test burn at the time of the evaluation of the bids in response to the April 2004 solicitation. At the time, the Company had not completed its review of the test burn and the Company was not permitted to burn sub bituminous coal under the environmental

permit in effect at that time. The results of the April 2004 solicitation confirmed, however, that the PFC and PEF should continue to investigate the use of PRB coals at CR4 and CR5.

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Q. Why did you purchase PRB coals for a test burn in April 2004?

After the results of the July 2003 solicitation, I continued to follow the market prices reported in the coal publications or on the spot market for bituminous compliance coal, both domestic and import, and PRB coals. I noticed that bituminous coal prices were rising faster than PRB coal prices. As a result, I believed the use of PRB coal in a blend at Crystal River might prove to be economical in the future. For several months preceding the purchase of the PRB coal, I had been speaking with various suppliers of PRB coals. In most cases, because of delivery problems that I have mentioned earlier in my testimony and the suppliers resulting inability to satisfy their existing contractual commitments for PRB coals, the PRB suppliers were not able to provide PFC with a test shipment for a test burn at CR4 and CR5. However, ultimately, after numerous discussions over several months, one PRB coal supplier was willing to "make room" for one unit train for a test shipment. We purchased approximately 30,000 tons of PRB coal from Peabody for shipment by rail to the river. The coal was then transported by river barge to International Marine Terminal (IMT) and ocean barge to Crystal River. There were numerous delays in the shipment of the PRB coal by rail, due to congestion and supply requirements for other coal purchasers on the western rail lines, but I eventually received the shipment of PRB coal for an April 2004 test burn.

Q. Was the PRB test burn at CR4 and CR5 conducted in April 2004?

Yes, it was. Test burns at CR4 and CR5 must be conducted during the "shoulder" A. months, when the demand for energy placed on the system is generally lower due to the weather. The "shoulder" months generally occur in the spring and fall when the weather in Florida is more temperate. During "peak" months in the winter and summer in Florida the CR4 and CR5 units are needed at full output to meet the demands for energy. Accordingly, if we were unable to have the PRB blend test done in April in all likelihood that test would have been pushed back to the fall, in late October or November, or the next spring.

Q. What were the results of the April 2004 test burn?

A. The test results were promising although there were issues raised as a result of the test burn. After discussions with the plant operating personnel, it was determined that a target blend of 15% PRB with the remaining 85% a blend of bituminous coals, would be used. The blending occurred at IMT in New Orleans. When the test blend was shipped and used at the plant (CR4), the plant performed well at the 15% PRB blend but suffered a de-rate when it was determined a higher blend (22%) than what was planned occurred in a portion of the shipment. A copy of the test report is included with my testimony at Exhibit No. ___ (AWP-7).

Q. Have you read Mr. Sansom's testimony regarding the 2004 test burn?

23 A. Yes, I have.

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Q. Do you agree with it?

No, I do not. The test was not "botched" as Mr. Sansom asserts. The test was undertaken to see how the existing units, in this case CR4, handled a small blend of PRB and bituminous coal without any changes to the unit. In other words, the Company wanted to see not only how the unit operated with a PRB blend but also what, if any, changes were needed in the operation of the unit to accommodate PRB.

It is further not true that PFC or the operators of the plant did not know that the CR4 and CR5 boilers were designed to handle a blend of bituminous and sub bituminous coals. We were very much aware that the design of the boilers accommodated a blend of bituminous and sub bituminous coals and that is why we proceeded with the April 2004 test burn without first checking with environmental on the environmental permit. When we learned that the permit did not include sub bituminous coal, the Company stopped the test, and reported this to DEP. I understand the Company obtained a permit to conduct a subsequent test of a blend of PRB and bituminous coal.

Also, it should be remembered that the April 2004 test was a preliminary look at PRB, the test occurred only over two days, to see if the Company should pursue PRB as an option at CR4 and CR5. As a result of this test, which I reported to management at PEF, I understand that the Company continued to investigate the use of PRB at CR4 and CR5 in 2005 and 2006.

Q. By the way, did PFC also participate in the spot market from 2002 to 2005?

_	1	A.	Yes. PFC had a practice of regularly participating in spot purchases when market
	2		conditions warranted such participation and PFC frequently maintained open position
	3		when market conditions appeared favorable to do so for spot purchases.
andres.	4		
	5	Q.	Was PFC's participation in the spot market well known?
	6	A.	Yes. I frequently told bidders and potential bidders about our interest in spot
_	7		purchases when I was in charge of coal procurement for the Crystal River Plant and I
	8		was certainly aware that PFC was a participant in the spot market when I was on the
	9		sales side. Also, the purchases in the spot market are widely reported in various
	10		widely read and recognized coal publications.
	11		
	12	Q.	Did any PRB supplier ever participate in the spot market during your tenure
	13		from 2002 to 2005?
	14	A.	No. I never received any spot offers for PRB coal from any PRB supplier.
_	15		
	16		C. SUBSEQUENT MARKET PURCHASES IN 2004
	17		
	18	Q.	Did you re-enter the coal market in August and September 2004 for additional
	19		coal purchases for 2005 and 2006?
	20	A.	Yes, I did.
-	21		
_	22	Q.	Why did you re-enter the market so soon after the April 2004 solicitation was
	23		completed?

A. At the time of the completion of the April 2004 solicitation we had an open position partly due to the availability of compliance bituminous coals as a result of that solicitation and partly due to a desire to maintain some limited flexibility to respond to market conditions should they grow more favorable to purchasers. From April to September 2004, however, coal market pricing remained extremely strong, with coal commodity prices increasing from \$45 to \$50 per ton to approximately \$60 to \$70 per ton. This was indicative of a tight supply market brought about by, among other factors, continued trucking issues in both Kentucky and West Virginia and continued discussions regarding the difficulty of obtaining mining permits. Additionally, four major utilities (Tennessee Valley Authority [TVA], South Carolina Electric & Gas, South Carolina Public Service, and Constellation) had issued solicitations for coal. PFC's open position had also expanded for water deliveries of coal to CR4 and CR5. The most economical move under the existing Massey contract was to shift all of that coal from water to rail, rather than maintaining an even split as originally envisioned, because of changing economics on the delivery costs and because projected inventories at IMT in 2005 for water delivery was growing because of delayed deliveries of coal due to the 2004 hurricane season. In sum, PFC determined that additional coal was needed by water for CR4 and CR5 and PFC was now competing with a number of major utilities for a limited supply of coal in the same time frame. Q. Did PFC issue a formal RFP when it re-entered the market in August and September 2004?

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No, it did not. PFC conducted an informal solicitation by contacting those suppliers who were known to have bituminous compliance coal supplies as a result of PFC having conducted the April 2004 formal RFP and continuing contacts in the industry. PFC contacted five potential suppliers off its April 2004 RFP bidder list (PFC's Marketing and Trading Division (PFC/M&T), Coal Marketing Company (CMC), Guasare, Drummond, and Glencore) to determine their ability to supply water-delivered coal and at what price. Only three other suppliers of waterborne coal for CR4 and CR5 (Central Coal, Infinity, and Massey) had responded to PFC's April 2004 RFP and I knew from various discussions with these potential suppliers that none of them had coal available.

I received six bids from three reliable suppliers. After the bids were evaluated, PFC awarded contracts to the two lowest cost suppliers. PFC/M&T provided the lowest bid and was awarded a two-year contract for 480,000 tons a year. The next lowest bidder, CMC, was awarded a contract for 450,000 tons (150,000 tons in year one and 300,000 tons in year two). CMC was a supplier of Columbian compliance bituminous coal.

Q.

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Why didn't PFC issue a formal RFP solicitation in August-September 2004? Under the prevailing market conditions at the time issuance of a formal RFP was not practicable to ensure that PFC received the necessary quantities of coal it needed for CR4 and CR5 and that it received the necessary quantities at an economical price. As I have explained, coal prices were increasing, partly due to diminishing supplies produced in that time frame, and four major utilities had entered the market with

formal solicitations competing for the same limited supply of compliance bituminous coal.

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Under these circumstances, PFC concluded the best way to secure the most inexpensive coal in the quantities needed was to quickly secure it before commitments were made to the other utilities with outstanding solicitations. While the other four utilities had entered the marketplace with their RFP's, the responses to those RFP's were not due at the time PFC initiated its informal solicitation and evaluation. PFC was able to move ahead of these formal RFP's with an informal solicitation because at the time, due to the volatility of the coal market, almost all responses to RFP's were offered "subject to prior sale," meaning as I have said previously, that the potential suppliers were able to sell their coal to other potential buyers in the market. We intended to enter the market and act quickly before the other four utilities had a chance to respond. Once PFC informed a supplier of its desire to purchase, the supplier would remove their bid from contention in the formal RFP's as a result of the "subject to prior sales" clause in their offer. As a result, in this marketplace it was truly "first come, first served."

If PFC had issued a formal RFP instead of conducting the informal solicitation when it did. PFC would have stood in line behind these other four utilities and all of them obviously would have completed their RFP solicitation and evaluation before PFC was able to complete another formal solicitation and evaluation. PFC, then, would have faced an even tighter supply of coal, necessarily resulting in even higher prices than it ended up paying, or no coal at all to meet its needs for CR4 and CR5. Conducting the informal solicitation for CR4 and CR5 when it did in AugustSeptember 2004 was reasonable and prudent in light of the prevailing market conditions.

A.

Q. How did PFC evaluate the bids received in response to the August-September 2004 informal solicitation?

PFC used the same methodology that it used for all coal purchases. PFC evaluated the bids based on both the delivered cost and evaluated cost to the Crystal River Plant.

PFC also followed its typical practice of comparing the commodity prices of coals offered in the bids to the current market commodity prices reported in coal reports widely recognized in the industry as reliable market price indicators to ensure that the bid prices were consistent with prevailing market conditions when comparing the bids to the other bids received.

PFC determined that the bid prices, including the PFC bid, were within a reasonable range of market prices based on the published reports and other bids. This comparison was done because of the lack of availability of coal in the market place. The commodity price for the PFC/M&T bid (\$62/ton), was within a reasonable range of market prices reported by United Power Inc. and Henwood Energy Services, Inc., which ranged from \$60.43/ton to \$62.96/ton. The delivered costs of the PFC bid was \$3.15/MMBtu and was within a reasonable range of market prices based upon the United Power and Henwood Energy commodity prices plus the estimated delivered cost at \$3.09/MMBtu to \$3.19/MMBtu.

The CMC bid was compared to the other import coal offer which was provided by Guasare. The CMC commodity price delivered into IMT was \$63.93/ton compared

\$3.18/MMBtu compared to the delivered Guasare price of \$3.32/MMBtu. Based on the types of coals at issue in the informal solicitation, PFC further followed its usual practice of purchasing known coals based upon the lowest delivered cost of the coals offered. This demonstrated that the August-September 2004 solicitation resulted in valid market prices.

Q. Are you aware of Mr. Sansom's criticisms of the August-September 2004

informal solicitation?

A. Yes, I am. Mr. Sansom criticizes PFC because (1) PFC did not conduct a formal RFP solicitation; (2) PFC apparently did not contact every compliance coal supplier on its admittedly "lengthy" bidder list; (3) PFC allegedly "sole-sourced" 480,000 tons for a two-year contract to an affiliate that provided coal by water to Crystal River; (4) PFC used published trade press prices to compare the bid prices received; and (5) PFC also purchased 210,000 tons of coal for CR1 and CR2 by rail from its affiliate. Mr. Sansom also claims PFC should have purchased PRB coal and not the coal purchased from PFC/M&T.

A.

Q. Do you agree with them?

No, I do not. Apparently, Mr. Sansom believes that the only means of purchasing coal is through a formal RFP solicitation no matter what the market conditions are. This rigid standard is unrealistic and impractical because it denies PFC (or any procuring utility for that matter), the flexibility necessary to respond to changing market

conditions. By late summer and fall 2004 the coal market was highly volatile, there were several utilities seeking significant tons from an ever tightening supply, necessitating quick action by PFC to secure the necessary tons for CR4 and CR5. PFC acted reasonably and prudently under those market conditions in ensuring that it was among the "first to be served" in that market. Further, if Mr. Sansom's rigid standard of formal solicitations prevailed today there would be no "Over the Counter Market" (OTC) for coal which is clearly not the case in our industry today.

Mr. Sansom focuses on the purchase contract with PFC/M&T in August-September but ignores the 450,000 tons purchased over the same two years from CMC for high quality, import compliance bituminous coal. They were both made at the same time, both provided coal by barge delivery into Crystal River, and both bid prices compared favorably to market prices based on the recognized industry indices. Notably, Mr. Sansom does not say that it is unreasonable or imprudent to compare bid prices to such indices, rather, he argues simply that they are no substitute for formal solicitations. Again, in a perfect world with perfect market conditions one could always rely on formal RFP's but the world is not always perfect and market conditions sometimes require a more flexible, rapid response to market circumstances than a formal RFP provides. Those are the circumstances that PFC faced in August-September 2004.

Mr. Sansom nowhere explains how the purchase of coal by rail for CR1 and CR2, which is an entirely different type of coal from that purchased for CR4 and CR5, renders the award of one of the contracts in response to the August-September 2004 informal solicitation imprudent. He simply asserts it with no basis whatsoever.

Finally, Mr. Sansom takes issue with statements I have made about the anticipated impact if PFC issued a formal solicitation rather than conducting the informal solicitation that it undertook in August-September 2004. He claims that the trade press reports show that PEF was already in the market in August and September 2004 and, therefore, implies that the participants in the market were well aware of PFC's intentions. This is misleading. The trade press reports included by Mr. Sansom as an exhibit are both incomplete and, hence, not dated. One can tell, however, from comparing the "Bids Due" entries on page 1 of 2 of Exhibit No. (RS-25) that the entry for Progress Energy for "Crystal River" has a "Bid Due" date of "5/12/04", which was the earlier April 2004 solicitation. The second entry on that same page refers to a "Progress Energy," "system-wide" solicitation, with a "Bids Due" date of "6/30/04." This second entry is a solicitation for Progress Energy Carolinas, not for PEF at Crystal River. It is this second entry that is repeated on page 2 of 2 of Exhibit No. (RS-25). Therefore, what Mr. Sansom has done in this exhibit is include an earlier April 2004 RFP by PFC for PEF at Crystal River and a Progress Energy Carolinas solicitation and claimed that they demonstrate that PFC would re-enter the market months later, in August-September 2004, for more coal for Crystal River. The exhibit clearly has nothing to do with the informal solicitation that PFC undertook in August-September 2004.

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IV. SYNFUEL PRODUCTION AND SALES: 1999-2002

22 23

24

Q.

21

Prior to assuming the position of Vice President for Coal Procurement for PFC, were you employed on the sales side of PFC?

Yes, I was, from 1984 until 2002. My job was to sell coal and later coal and synfuel to utilities and industrial customers. As a result, PEF was but one potential customer among many potential customers.

A.

Q. Did you respond to RFP's for coal for the Crystal River units?

Yes, I did. I frequently participated by providing bids in response to PEF RFP's with both coal and synfuel at various times over the years. In each case in which I participated in an RFP on behalf of PFC/M&T, I was always treated just like any other bidder. I also participated in the spot market with PEF by providing PFC on PEF's behalf offers for spot purchases. Similarly, when I assumed the position of making coal procurement decisions for PFC on PEF's behalf I treated PFC/M&T, when they participated in the RFPs or spot market, just like any other bidder.

PFC/M&T sold synfuel from facilities in which PFC had a small equity interest to PFC on behalf of PEF from 2000 to 2002. PEF, however, did not always purchase coal or synfuel from PFC/M&T when it was offered, either in response to an RFP or on the spot market.

Q.

A.

Was it unusual for EFC/PFC affiliates to have handled synfuel sales for synfuel producers in which an EFC/PFC affiliate held a minority equity participation?

No, that should have been expected because EFC (PFC) was one of the first if not the first entity to develop a successful synfuel production process and to set up efficient production and marketing facilities. As a result, other participants in the industry sought out EFC's (PFC's) expertise in the production and marketing of synfuel.

-	1		EFC/PFC was the primary, dominant market participant in the production and sale of
	2		synfuel.
_	3		
_	4	Q.	What made synfuel competitive to comparable bituminous compliance coal?
	5	A.	Synfuel had a bituminous coal base so it was offered as an alternative coal product at a
	6		price that was one to two dollars cheaper than the bituminous coal product on the
	7		market. In fact, the sales pitch for synfuel was that "it burns like coal, handles like
	8		coal, but is cheaper than coal so it will save you money."
_	9		
	10	Q.	Did the sale of synfuel to PFC for PEF benefit PEF's customers?
	11	A.	Yes, it obviously did, because the synfuel product was sold at a discount to the market
_	12		price for bituminous compliance coal. So, as a result, the utility customer received a
_	13		similar bituminous coal-based product at a below market price. Synfuel producers
	14		were able to sell synfuel at or below market prices because they obtained tax credits
-	15		that offset losses on the production and sale of synfuel.
-	16		
	17	Q.	Mr. Sansom creates the impression in his testimony and his exhibits that sales of
-	18		synfuel to PFC for PEF's Crystal River units were the primary source of synfuel
_	19		tax credits for Progress Energy. Is that accurate?
	20	A.	No, it is not. Since I was involved in the sale of coal and synfuel from 2000 to 2002
•	21		(and coal before then) I know that PEF was one of PFC/M&T's smallest customers of
_	22		synfuel. There were a number of other major utilities, such as American Electric
	23		Power (AEP), TVA, and Louisville Gas & Electric, that purchased substantially more

tons of synfuel on an annual basis than PEF ever did. These larger synfuel customers had to account for the overwhelming majority of the tax credits generated from synfuel sales because it is my understanding that the tax credits followed the sales.

V. ADDITIONAL REBUTTAL POINTS

A.

Q. Having read Mr. Sansom's testimony, are there any additional errors that you see in his testimony?

A. Yes, there are. First, Mr. Sansom argues at page 39, lines 10-16, of his testimony that the shipment of PRB coals by rail to the McDuffie terminal in Mobile, Alabama and then by Gulf barge to Crystal River was the most economic route for the shipment of PRB coals to Crystal River. Second, at pages 46 and 47 of his testimony, Mr. Sansom attempts to equate the transportation risks of moving PRB coals to the transportation risks for Eastern bituminous coals. Both of these arguments are in error, based on what little information Mr. Sansom has provided in his testimony to support them.

- Q. What is erroneous about his argument that the shipment of PRB coals by rail to

 McDuffie and then by Gulf barge to Crystal River was the most economic means
 to deliver PRB coals to Crystal River?
 - In support of this argument he relies on two letter proposals from rail carriers, one dated August 23, 2002 and the other dated May 8, 2003, for the delivery by rail of test shipments to the McDuffie terminal, and his unsupported conclusion that the "post-test burn" contract rail rates "usually" are not higher than the railroad's test burn rates

simply "because volumes are higher and the term is longer." The latter letter was addressed to me and followed conversations that I had with the carrier. I know based on those conversations that the rail price quoted in that letter was limited to a "test" shipment as a means of encouraging PFC to look at PRB coals for the Crystal River plants in the near future. I also know from those same conversations that the actual, long-term contract price to haul PRB coal from the mine to the McDuffie terminal would have been higher. This offer was a "Blue Light Special" offered by the rail carrier. I was there, I had the conversations with the rail supplier, and I know this offer was for test shipments only and would not translate into a later, favorable contract rail price. Therefore, Mr. Sansom's conclusion is incorrect in this instance and he offers nothing else to support his assertion that long-term contract rail rates between these two locations are "usually" lower than test burn rates. In fact, Mr. Sansom later concludes (at page 40) that it was the lack of "good data" that led him not to rely on this method of transporting PRB coals to Crystal River in his damages analysis.

Q. What is erroneous about Mr. Sansom's attempts to equate the transportation risks of PRB coals and Eastern bituminous coals?

A. In my experience in the coal markets, primarily in the east, the reasons for delay on the transportation of coals is highly dependent on the particular circumstances involved in each occurrence. The delays that have occurred in my experience usually could be explained by the situation of the particular supplier, the particular mine, the particular locale, or other unique circumstances. I have found it difficult to generalize

about such risks in the eastern coal markets much less between eastern and western coal markets. Mr. Sansom must face similar difficulties since his testimony on this point is unsupported by any analytical, scientific study that he or someone else has done to compare the transportation risks associated with PRB coals to the transportation risks associated with eastern bituminous coals.

VI. CONCLUSION

- Q. Do you believe that PFC acted reasonably and prudently in the coal procurement decisions that were made during your tenure as the Vice President of Coal Procurement for PFC?
- Yes, I do. As I have explained in my testimony, PFC has always sought to obtain the most economical coal for the Crystal River coal units given the market conditions that PFC faced at the times these decisions had to be made between 2002 and 2005. In my view, under the circumstances present at the time these decisions were made, PFC did act reasonably and prudently.

- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 19 A. Yes.

PORTIONS OF AWP-6

DECLASSIFIED

Mr. Charlie Ga	tes		
June 22, 2004	•	į.	
Page 2_			

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Page 2 of 9



Because of the strength of the current market, we only purchased for 2005 and 2006. Our plan is to watch the market, and re-enter for both spot and contract coal during late 2004 and early 2005. I have enclosed with this memo the purchases and the economic evaluation from the RFP (See Attachment "A"), a Supply Assessment for 2005 and 2006 (See Attachment "B"), and the 2005 and 2006 scheduled purchases including their economic evaluations (See Attachment "C").

As always, we attempted to improve the economics, as compared to the prices offered, while increasing the tonnage purchased and the term offered.

2005-2006 PURCHASES

FOREIGN WATER

DECLASSIFIED

Choice:

• During the latter part of March and early April, we began negotiations with Drummond for an extension of our 2004 agreement. This decision was made because all indicators pointed to the beginning of another round of price increases and supply shortages for both domestic and foreign coals. We purchased 800,000 tons for 2005 and 1 million tons for 2006 from Drummond's Mina Pribbenow mines; this is "Delta" coal. The delivered cost to Crystal River (CR) is 2.509 \$/MMBTU and 2.531 \$/MMBTU, respectively.

No additional purchases were made for foreign coal from the RTP because the prices submitted from other foreign suppliers were not competitive. Their prices ranged from 2.828 to 2.948 \$/MMBTU. These prices compared to 2.672 to 3.082 \$/MMBTU, for offers from the domestic suppliers.

Explanation:

During 2004, we began shipments of Drummond's Colombian coal. The results economically, environmentally, and operationally have been excellent. This coal, besides being very low in ash and sulfur, reduces NO_x emissions by almost 25%. This purchase will assist CR in achieving their NO_x goals, while providing them with a competitively priced product.

DOMESTIC WATER

Choices:

• We purchased "Delta" coal from two suppliers for delivery on the river system. We were offered and purchased 300,000 tons per year for 2005 and 2006 from Central Coal Company. This "Delta" coal will ship via truck to the Kanawha River and will deliver into CR at 2.672 \$/MMBTU. We also purchased 360,000 and 180,000 tons of "Delta" coal for 2005 and 2006 from Massey Energy. This coal will be rail-delivered to the Ohio River, and it will deliver into CR at 2.698 \$/MMBTU.

Mr. Charlie Gates June 22, 2004 Page 3 Docket No. 060658
Progress Energy Florida
Exhibit No. ____ (AWP-6)
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CONFIDENTIAL

Explanation:

• We have had previous experience with both of these suppliers and are very satisfied they will meet or exceed the specifications bid.

DOMESTIC RAIL

Choices:

DECLASSIFIED

• We purchased "Delta" coal from two companies and "Alpha" ccal from three others. We have previous experience with three of the suppliers and have added two new companies.

"DELTA COAL"

We purchased 360,000 for 2005 and 180,000 tons for 2006 from Massey Energy. This coal will deliver into CR at \$2.693 \$/MMBTU. We also purchased 360,000 each year from Progress Fuels-Marketing and Trading. This product will deliver into CR at 2.735 \$/MMBTU.

"ALPHA COAL"

We purchased 720,000 tons for 2005 and 360,000 for 2006 from Massey Energy. This coal will deliver into CR at 2.596 \$/MMBTU. We purchased 120,000 tons for 2005 and 240,000 tons for 2006 from Sequoia Energy LLC. This coal will deliver into CR at 2.586 \$/MMBTU. Also, we purchased 240,000 tons for each year (2005 and 2006) from B&W Resources. This coal will deliver into CR at 2.608 \$/MMBTU.

Explanation:

• Massey Energy has been a consistently reliable supplier over the past 20 years. Progress Fuels-Marketing & Trading has very good quality coal and a reliable track record. Because of the shortage of coals in the Central Appalachian region, we felt it imperative to add to our base of suppliers. Both Sequoia Energy and B&W Resources will fulfill this need. Prior to contracting with them we had our field representative visit their mining operations, and we called other utility buyers to verify their performance. No problems were noted in either case.

2004 RE+OPENERS

We have only one contract with a re-opener during 2004. Consol Energy (Consol) has a price, quantity, and terms re-opener, which needs to be completed by November 1, 2004. We have already had several discussions with Consol regarding tonnage for next year. Current estimates are that they will have 750,000 to 1 million tons to offer. The current contract is for 1 million tons.

PROGRESS FUELS CORPORATION

CR Units 1,2, 4 and 5
PURCHASES from DECLAS 2005-2006

RFP

				++++++		COF	RECTE	D COPY		+++++++								
				(000)													Evaluated	Evaluated
				Total	2005	2006	The Control of the Co					500 S 50	Company of the last	Max	報の日本の利力を記	Cash	Utilized	Utilized
Supplier	Coal Type	Term	:Origin	Tons	Tons	Tons	Ash	Sulfur	Btu	Moisture	Vol	HGI	SO2	'S02-	Cost \$/st	Cost \$/M	Cost \$/st	Cost \$/M
<u>Water</u>		1														17.70		
Drummond / Interocean	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	FOB Mobile	1800	800	1000	5.50%	0.70%	11,700	14.00%	32.00%	43		1.20	\$59.23	2,531	\$58.80	\$2.51
Central Coal Co.	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	Winifred Dock	600	300	300	12.00%	0.74%	12,300	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.73	2.672	\$66.24	\$2.69
Massey	D (CR4&5)	1/05-6/06	FOB Ceredo	540	360	180	13.00%	0.73%	12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.28	2.698	\$66.24	\$2.74
<u>Rail</u>				***														
Massey	D (CR4&5)	1/05-6/06	Bandmill	540	360	180	12.00%	0.73%	12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.18	2.693	\$65.84	\$2.72
Progress Fuels	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	Diamond May	720	360	360	12.00%	0.75%	12,500	8.00%	32.00%	43		1.20	\$68.38	2.735	\$68.78	\$2.75
Sequoia Energy LLC	A (CR1&2)	1/05-12/06	CSX Harlan	360	120	240	10.00%	1.34%	12,700	8.00%	31.00%	42	1.50	2.10	\$65.69	2.586	\$66.64	\$2.62
Massey	A (CR1&2)	1/05-6/06	CSX BS	1080	720	360	12.00%		12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42	1.50	2.10	\$62.82	2.596	\$64.60	\$2.67
B&W Resources	A (CR1&2)	1/05-12/06	CSX Jellico	480	240	240	11.50%	1.25%	12,500	7.00%	32.00%	42	1.50	2.00	\$65.19	2.608	\$66.20	\$2.65
**************************************			· ·															
			Total Tons	4320	2460	1860								SO2	\$288			

PROGRESS FUELS CORPORATION

CR Units 1,2, 4 and 5 PURCHASES from 2005-2006 RFP



				(000)		1 152 -									11.11		Evaluated	Evaluated
Supplier.	Coal Type	Term	Origin (Total Tons	2005 Tons	2006 Tons	Δsh	A RIPORTER STATE OF	A Francisco de Laborat	から は かから からな	ns Vol	Type of the second	S. STREET, STR	Max SO2	Cost S/st	Cash Cost \$/M	Utilized Cost \$/st	Utilized Cost \$/M
<u>Vater</u>	- Obdi-Type	State of the state	Ongin	TOHS	10113	a louis		Juju	SERVED COMPANY	moistaro	10,224 .0,72				, O.O.S. (4/31)	2003C PINE		Q 031 φ/m
Drummond / Interocean	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	FOB Mobile	1800	800	1000	5.50%	0.70%	11,700	14.00%	32.00%	43		1.20	\$59.23	2.531	\$58.80	\$2.51
Central Coal Co.	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	Winifred Dock	600	300	300	12.00%	0.74%	12,300	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.73	2.672	\$66.24	\$2.69
Massey	D (CR4&5)	1/05-6/06	FOB Ceredo	540	360	180	13.00%	0.73%	12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.28	2.698	\$66.24	\$2.74
<u>Rail</u>																		
Massey	D (CR4&5)	1/05-6/06	Bandmill	540	360	180	12.00%	0.73%	12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42		1.20	\$65.18	2.693	\$65.84	\$2.72
Progress Fuels	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	Diamond May	720	360	360	12.00%	0.75%	12,500	8.00%	32.00%	43		1.20	\$68.38	2.735	\$68.78	\$2.75
CAM-KY	D (CR4&5)	1/05-12/06	Diamond May	720	360	360	12.00%	0.75%	12,500	8.00%	32.00%	43		1.20	\$68,38	2.735	\$68.78	\$2:75
Sequoia Energy LLC	A (CR1&2)	1/05-12/06	CSX Harlan	360	120	240	10.00%	1.34%	12,700	8.00%	31.00%	42	1.50	2.10	\$65.69	2.586	\$66.64	\$2.62
Massey	A (CR1&2)	1/05-6/06	CSX BS	1080	720	360	12.00%	1.27%	12,100	8.00%	31.00%	42	1.50	2.10	\$62.82	2.596	\$64.60	\$2.67
Bâw Resources	A (CR1&2)	1/05-12/06	ČŠX Jeirico	480°	2 40	240	11.50%	1.∠5%	12,500	້າ.ບໍ່ບໍ່%	32.00%	42	1:50	2.00	\$65.19	2.000	ຈຸ້ນນີ້.ຂໍ້ນີ້	\$∠.ō5
			Total Tons	5040	2820	2220								SO2	\$288			