

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Environmental cost recovery clause.

DOCKET NO. 070007-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-07-0995-CFO-EI
ISSUED: December 11, 2007

ORDER GRANTING GULF POWER COMPANY'S
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION
(DOCUMENT NO. 09564-07)

On October 18, 2007, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, Gulf Power Company ("Gulf") filed a request for confidential classification of certain information produced by the Company in response to Commission Staff's First Set of Interrogatories (Items 1-17) in this docket (Document No. 09564-07). Gulf asserts that its response to Interrogatory Number 8 identifies its projected mercury allowance costs between 2010 and 2026 and that disclosure of this information could negatively impact its ability to negotiate pricing favorable to its customers when contracting for the purchase of allowances. Additionally, Gulf contends that this information relates to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair its competitive business. Gulf further states that this information is intended to be and is treated by Gulf as confidential and has not been publicly disclosed.

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

Upon review, it appears that Gulf's response to Interrogatory Number 8 in this docket satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), Florida Statutes, for classification as proprietary confidential business information and, thus, shall be treated as confidential. The information constitutes "[i]nformation concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms," or "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information." Thus, this information is granted confidential classification.

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


Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner Matthew M. Carter II, as Prehearing Officer, that Gulf Power Company's Request for Confidential Classification of Document No. 09564-07 is granted. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 09564-07 for which confidential classification has been granted shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this order. It is further

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

By ORDER of Commissioner Matthew M. Carter II, as Prehearing Officer, this 11th day of December, 2007.



MATTHEW M. CARTER II
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

(S E A L)

MCB/tfw

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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

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

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