COMMISSIONERS: MATTHEW M. CARTER II, CHAIRMAN LISA POLAK EDGAR KATRINA J. MCMURRIAN NANCY ARGENZIANO NATHAN A. SKOP





GENERAL COUNSEL PATRICK L. "BOOTER (850) 413-6199

Hublic Service Commission

March 9, 2009

Jack English Florida Public Utilities Company P.O. Box 3395 West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3395

STAFF'S SECOND DATA REQUEST

Norman H. Horton, Jr., Esquire Post Office Box 15579 Tallahassee, FL 32317

Re: Docket No. 080366-GU, Petition for rate increase by Florida Public Utilities Company

Dear Mr. English:

By this letter, the Commission staff requests that Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC) provide responses to the following data requests.

- 45. Please provide a copy of the salary surveys discussed in witness Martin's testimony. (pages 12-13)
- 46. Please provide the supporting detail for direct projections for 2008 and 2009 for the Balance Sheet as described on schedule G-6, page 1.
- 47. Please provide the supporting detail for the direct projections for 2008 and 2009 for Construction as described on schedule G-6, page 1.
- 48. Please provide the cost by item for the transportation and construction equipment discussed on page 20 of witness Mesite's direct testimony.
- 49. Please provide a copy of the "quote received from the vendor" referred to by witness Mesiter on page 25 of his direct testimony.
- 50. Please provide "the latest allocations" referred to by witness Mesite on page 30 of his direct testimony when available.
- 51. Please provide a copy of the "estimates provided by the vendor" discussed by witness Mesity on page 27 of his direct testimony.

- 52. Please provide a copy of the "cost estimates provided by the vendor AON" discussed by witness Lundgren on page 55 of her direct testimony.
- 53. Please provide the support for the training expense discussed by witness Lundgren on page 60 of her direct testimony.
- 54. Please provide a copy of the vendor quotes discussed by witness Lundgren on pages 50, 61, 65, 66, 67 and 68, of her direct testimony.
- 55. What is the expected life of the new flooring for the corporate office? (Lundgren page 67)
- 56. Please explain why four years was chosen for Bridge Crossing Repairs and Maintenance?
- 57. Please provide in electronic and hard copy format all historical data (independent and dependent variables) by rate class used to estimate the econometric models used to forecast the 2009 test year bills and therms.
- 58. Please provide all the econometric equations used to forecast the 2009 test year bills and therms by rate class including all supporting statistics.
- 59. Please provide all the projected values for the independent variables used to create the 2009 forecasts of bills and therms by rate class.
- 60. Please identify the sources used to obtain the projected values for the independent variables used to forecast the 2009 test year bills and therms.
- 61. Were there any adjustments made to the econometric output of the regression equations in deriving the 2009 bills and therms by rate class contained in the MFRs? If so, explain in detail what adjustments were made and why.
- 62. Please refer to the direct testimony of Mr. Schneidermann, page 137, lines 2-4: Why is the cost of meter set more expensive for GS-2 than GS-1?
- 63. Please refer to the direct testimony of Mr. Schneidermann, page 137, lines 10-18: Please explain why FPUC chose 600 therms as the break point between GS-1 and GS-2.
- 64. Does the utility currently offer transportation only service for Gas Lighting customers? If not, why is FPUC proposing this option now?
- 65. Please refer to the direct testimony of Mr. Schneidermann, page 127, lines 3-5:
 Please explain the statement that Gas Lighting Service customers are cheaper to serve cheaper compared to whom? Why does the utility believe these customers have extreme
 market sensitivity?

Area Extension Program ("AEP") questions

- 66. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 95, lines 14-16. Why was the end of year five (5) of the AEP in-service program chosen as the 'true-up' re-evaluation point for all outstanding Excess Construction Costs ("ECC") owed to FPUC?
- 67. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 95, lines 14-16. Are you aware of any other utilities in Florida which allow a provision to adjust up or down the fixed dollar surcharge based on actual sales and actual excess construction costs at the end of the fifth year following the in-service date of an AEP project?
- 68. Mr. Seagrave's testimony page 94, lines 7-8 states, "The Company therefore proposes to increase all existing AEP surcharge rates to \$0.50 per therm." According to proposed tariff Sheet No. 27 under the new 'Area Expansion Program Surcharges for AEP Facilities prior to January 1, 2009,' different rate classes receive different surcharges. Please explain this discrepancy.
- 69. Please refer to Proposed Tariff Sheet No. 27. How were the new Area Expansion Program Surcharges for AEP Facilities prior to January 1, 2009 derived? Please provide in hard and electronic copies analysis and derivation of how these rates were created for each customer classification.
- 70. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 94 lines 1-7. Please provide a list of all current projects subject to an Area Expansion assessment including when their respective 10-year time frame for recovery expire, and the shortfalls FPUC expects at the end of their 10-year collection time period
- 71. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 94 lines 18-20. Were any unrecovered construction costs for prior AEP eligible projects included in base rates in FPUC's last rate case (Docket # 040216-GU)? If so, what was the total amount included in base rates?
- 72. If all customers paid the \$0.50 surcharge, would that permit a full capture of all Excess Construction Costs?
- 73. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 94 lines 12-16. Can you please provide in hard copy and electronic format the analysis and data that was used to determine the projected outstanding unrecovered Excess Construction Costs of \$4,000,000?
- 74. Please refer to Mr. Seagrave's testimony, page 94 lines 16-20. Please provide in hard copy and electronic format the analysis and data showing how the new Per Therm for outstanding charges would reduce this amount owed to \$2,400,000.00.
- 75. Please provide a hypothetical example demonstrating the calculation of an AEP surcharge as it is currently administered for each customer classification.
- 76. What would be the average bill impact of the surcharge for each customer class for both the proposed per therm and the per instance methods of recovery?

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- 77. Please explain why in the updated Technical Terms and Abbreviations, Sheet No. 10.1 for AC. and AD, FPUC uses the term "Company's Maximum Authorized Rate of Return" for determining rates of return?
- 78. Does FPUC currently use the mid-point or maximum allowed rate of return on all Area Expansion programs?
- 79. How are customers currently notified by FPUC if required to assume any Excess Construction Costs due to starting and/or joining an existing AEP? If the customer receives a written notice, please provide a sample in hard and electronic format a copy of that notification.

Please file the original and five copies of the requested information by Monday, March 30, 2009, with Ms. Ann Cole, Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0850, and reference this docket. Please feel free to call me at (850) 413-6234 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ralph R. Jaeger

Senior Attorney

RRJ/th

cc: Office of Commission Clerk

Office of Public Counsel

Division of Economic Regulation (Prestwood, Piper, Hadder, Draper, Kummer, Stallcup)