

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for approval of) DOCKET NO. 950753-EI
late payment charge and field) ORDER NO. PSC-95-1087-FOF-EI
collection charge by Florida) ISSUED: August 31, 1995
Power Corporation.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF TARIFF FOR LATE
PAYMENT CHARGE AND FIELD COLLECTION CHARGE

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 3, 1995, Florida Power Corporation (FPC) filed a petition requesting our approval of a revision of its service charges tariff, Rate Schedule SC-1, that provides for a late payment charge and a field collection charge.

A customer will pay a late charge if a bill is not paid by the "past due" date indicated on the customer's bill. The late payment charge is 1.5 percent of any unpaid prior months' billings for all customers. Governmental entities will be charged a late payment charge in accordance with Section 215.422, Florida Statutes (state agencies), Section 218.70-.79, Florida Statutes (local governmental agencies), and 31 U.S.C. 3901-3907 (federal governmental agencies).

FPC maintained that 15 percent of its accounts are past due. We agree with FPC's assertion that a late payment charge will collect the costs of unpaid balances from those customers who are responsible, and encourage prompt payment of bills. Therefore, we approve FPC's late payment charge.

FPC also proposed a field collection charge. The field collection charge will apply when a utility's representative visits the customers' premises to disconnect service for nonpayment, but service is not discontinued because the customer, at that time, pays or makes arrangements to pay the delinquent bill. The customer will not incur a field collection charge if service is disconnected, or if a current receipt of payment is shown at the

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FPC-RECORDS/REPORTING