

One Energy Place  
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6111

ORIGINAL



March 2, 1999

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee FL 32399-0870

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TALLAHASSEE

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed are an original and fifteen copies of Gulf Power Company's revised tariff sheets nos. 4.20, 4.21, and 4.22. They have been revised to update paragraph 5.6 on page 4.20 regarding Medically Essential Service. Gulf is also revising the look of its tariff sheet which has caused some adjustments as to the amount of material that can be placed on each page, and therefore, has resulted in the additional pages being revised.

Sincerely,

*Susan D. Ritenour*

Susan D. Ritenour  
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

lw

Enclosures

cc: Beggs & Lane  
Jeffrey A. Stone, Esquire  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Connie Kummer

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMUJ \_\_\_\_\_
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- EAC** \_\_\_\_\_
- LEI \_\_\_\_\_
- LIN \_\_\_\_\_
- OPC \_\_\_\_\_
- RCI \_\_\_\_\_
- SEC 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

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**02835** MAR -4 99  
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**PART V**  
**CONTRACT AND ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS**

- 5.1 **CUTOFF REGULATIONS** - Bills for service are payable monthly, unless otherwise stated in rate schedules, and are considered delinquent after the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of mailing or delivery by the utility. If not paid at the Company's office or other designated place by the delinquent date, the Company at any time thereafter may suspend service after giving five (5) day's written notice to the customer of such delinquency and of the Company's intention to discontinue service. Such written notice will be separate and apart from any bill for service. If the amount due remains unpaid after suspension of service, the Company may treat the contract as canceled and at an end.
- 5.2 **EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF BILL** - The Company may, however, extend the time for paying any one or more bills, or any part thereof, and its action in so doing shall be without prejudice to its rights thereafter to suspend service as provided in these rules; and by so doing, the Company shall not be held or considered as waiving its rights or its option thereafter to suspend service and/or treat the contract as canceled and at an end.
- 5.3 **RECONNECT CHARGE** - When the service of a Customer has been discontinued for delinquency, all amounts due for service up to the date of discontinuance thereof shall become due and must be paid before service will be reconnected and Company shall require the Customer to pay a reconnection charge of \$16.00 before reconnecting.
- 5.4 **COLLECTION CHARGE** - Whenever payment for service is delinquent and a collector is required to call at the customer's premise, and service is not suspended, a six dollar (\$6.00) collection charge shall be collected.
- 5.5 **FAULTY WIRING ON CUSTOMER'S PREMISES** - The Company reserves the right to disconnect from its lines, or to refuse to connect to its lines, any Customer or applicant whose wiring is not in accordance with standard good practice; however, the Company does not assume any responsibility for installation or maintenance inspection of Customer's wiring or installation.
- 5.6 **MEDICALLY ESSENTIAL SERVICE** - For purposes of this section, a Medically Essential Service Customer is a residential customer whose electric service is medically essential, as affirmed through the certificate of a doctor of medicine licensed to practice in the State of Florida. Service is "medically essential" if the customer has continuously operating electric-powered medical equipment necessary to sustain the life of or avoid serious medical complications requiring immediate hospitalization of the customer or another permanent resident at the service address. The Physician's certificate shall explain briefly and clearly, in non-medical terms, why continuance of electric service is medically essential, and shall be consistent with the requirements of the Company's tariff. A customer who is certified as a Medically Essential Service Customer must renew such certification periodically through the procedures outlined above. The Company may require certification no more frequently than 12 months.

The Company shall provide Medically Essential Service Customers with a limited extension of time, not to exceed thirty (30) days, beyond the date service would normally be subject to disconnection for non-payment of bills (following the requisite notice pursuant to Rule 25-6.105(5) of the Florida Administrative Code). The Company shall provide the Medically Essential Service Customer with written notice specifying the date of disconnection based on the limited extension. The Medically Essential Service

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5.6 (Continued)

Customer shall be responsible for making mutually satisfactory arrangements to ensure payment within this additional extension of time for service provided by the Company and for which payment is past due, or to make other arrangements for meeting medically essential needs.

No later than 12 noon one day prior to the scheduled disconnection of service of a Medically Essential Service Customer, the Company shall attempt to contact such customer by telephone in order to provide notice of the scheduled disconnect date. If the Medically Essential Service Customer does not have a telephone number listed on the account, or if the utility cannot reach such customer or other adult resident of the premises by telephone by the specified time, a field representative will be sent to the residence to attempt to contact the Medically Essential Service Customer, no later than 4 p.m. of the day prior to scheduled disconnection. If contact is not made, however, the Company may leave written notification at the residence advising the Medically Essential Service Customer of the scheduled disconnect date; thereafter, the Company may disconnect service on the specified date. The Company will grant special consideration to a Medically Essential Service Customer in the application of Rule 25-6.097(3) of the Florida Administrative Code.

In the event that a customer is certified as a Medically Essential Customer, the customer shall remain solely responsible for any backup equipment and/or power supply and a planned course of action in the event of a power outage. The Company does not assume, and expressly disclaims, any obligation or duty: to monitor the health or condition of the person requiring medically essential service; to insure continuous service; to call, contact, or otherwise advise of service interruptions; or, except expressly provided by this section, to take any other action (or refrain from any action) that differs from the normal operations of the Company.

**PART VI**  
**UNDERGROUND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES**

6.1 **DEFINITIONS.** The following words and terms, when used in these Rules, shall have the meaning indicated:

**APPLICANT** - Any person, partnership, association, corporation, or governmental agency controlling or responsible for the development of a new subdivision and applying for the construction of underground electric distribution facilities.

**BUILDING** - Any structure, within a subdivision, designed for residential occupancy and containing less than five (5) individual dwelling units.

**COMMISSION** - The Florida Public Service Commission.

**DIRECT BURIAL** - A type of construction involving the placing of conductors in the ground without the benefit of conduit or ducts. Other facilities, such as transformers, may be above ground.

**DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES** - Electric service facilities consisting of primary and secondary conductors, service laterals, transformers, and necessary accessories and appurtenances for the furnishing of electric power at utilization voltage.

**FEEDER MAIN** - A three-phase primary installation which serves as a source for primary laterals and loops.

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- 6.1 (continued)
- FULL DUCT SYSTEM - A type of construction involving the placing of conductors in conduit or duct. Other facilities, such as transformers, may be above ground.
- HIGH DENSITY SUBDIVISION - A subdivision having a density of six (6) or more dwelling units per acre.
- LOW DENSITY SUBDIVISION - A subdivision having a density of at least 1.5 dwelling units but less than six (6) dwelling units per acre.
- MOBILE HOME (TRAILER) - A non-self propelled vehicle or conveyance, permanently equipped to travel upon the public highways, that is used either temporarily or permanently as a residence or living quarters.
- POINT OF DELIVERY - The point where the Company's wires or apparatus are connected to those of the Customer.
- PRIMARY CONDUCTORS - Facilities which conduct electricity at the primary voltage level to the transformers serving the secondary or service lateral.
- SECONDARY - That part of the electric distribution facilities which conducts electricity from the transformers to the service lateral.
- SERVICE LATERAL - The underground conductors between the secondary conductors or transformers, and the point of delivery.
- SUBDIVISION - The tract of land which is divided into five (5) or more building lots or upon which five or more separate dwelling units are to be located, or the land on which is to be constructed new multiple-occupancy buildings.
- TRENCH MILE - The length of trench in miles required for underground primary cables.

## 6.2 GENERAL

- 6.2.1 APPLICATION. Underground electric distribution facilities may be offered in lieu of overhead facilities in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
- (a) New Residential Subdivisions (SECTION 6.3)
- (b) Multiple-Occupancy Buildings (SECTION 6.4)
- (c) Other new construction of underground facilities or conversions of existing overhead facilities to underground (SECTION 6.5)
- 6.2.2 EARLY NOTIFICATION AND COORDINATION. In order for the Company to provide service when required, it is necessary that the Applicant notify the Company during the early stages of planning major projects. It is the Applicant's responsibility to insure that close cooperation is maintained with the Company throughout the planning and construction stages by the architect, the builder, and the consulting engineers to avoid delays and additional expense. Particular attention must be given to the scheduling of the construction of paved areas and the various subgrade installations of the several utilities.

# **Legislative Format**

# GULF POWER COMPANY

## **PART V** **CONTRACT AND ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS**

- 5.1 CUTOFF REGULATIONS - Bills for service are payable monthly, unless otherwise stated in rate schedules, and are considered delinquent after the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of mailing or delivery by the utility. If not paid at the Company's office or other designated place by the delinquent date, the Company at any time thereafter may suspend service after giving five (5) day's written notice to the customer of such delinquency and of the Company's intention to discontinue service. Such written notice will be separate and apart from any bill for service. If the amount due remains unpaid after suspension of service, the Company may treat the contract as canceled and at an end.
- 5.2 EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF BILL - The Company may, however, extend the time for paying any one or more bills, or any part thereof, and its action in so doing shall be without prejudice to its rights thereafter to suspend service as provided in these rules; and by so doing, the Company shall not be held or considered as waiving its rights or its option thereafter to suspend service and/or treat the contract as canceled and at an end.
- 5.3 RECONNECT CHARGE - When the service of a Customer has been discontinued for delinquency, all amounts due for service up to the date of discontinuance thereof shall become due and must be paid before service will be reconnected and Company shall require the Customer to pay a reconnection charge of \$16.00 before reconnecting.
- 5.4 COLLECTION CHARGE - Whenever payment for service is delinquent and a collector is required to call at the customer's premise, and service is not suspended, a six dollar (\$6.00) collection charge shall be collected.
- 5.5 FAULTY WIRING ON CUSTOMER'S PREMISES - The Company reserves the right to disconnect from its lines, or to refuse to connect to its lines, any Customer or applicant whose wiring is not in accordance with standard good practice; however, the Company does not assume any responsibility for installation or maintenance inspection of Customer's wiring or installation.
- 5.6 MEDICALLY ESSENTIAL SERVICE - ~~Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules and regulations, the Company will, upon request of the customer, allow a limited extension of time, not to exceed 30 days, beyond the normal service disconnection period for non-payment of bills if the Company is provided with evidence that continuance of service is medically essential to avoid hospitalization of the Customer, or a member of the customer's family, or a permanent resident of the premises where service is rendered; provided, however, that:~~

~~(a) Such evidence shall be by affidavit of a physician, licensed and practicing in Florida, stating that hospitalization would otherwise be required for the person requiring the service; and~~

For purposes of this section, a Medically Essential Service Customer is a residential customer whose electric service is medically essential, as affirmed through the certificate of a doctor of medicine licensed to practice in the State of Florida. Service is "medically essential" if the customer has continuously operating electric-powered medical equipment necessary to sustain the life of or avoid serious medical complications requiring immediate hospitalization of the customer or another permanent resident at the service address. The Physician's certificate shall explain briefly and clearly, in non-medical terms, why continuance of electric service is medically essential, and shall be consistent with the requirements of the Company's tariff. A customer who is certified as a Medically Essential Service Customer must renew such certification periodically through the procedures outlined above. The Company may require certification no more frequently than 12 months.

The Company shall provide Medically Essential Service Customers with a limited extension of time, not to exceed thirty (30) days, beyond the date service would normally be subject to disconnection for non-payment of bills (following the requisite notice pursuant to Rule 25-6.105(5) of the Florida Administrative Code). The Company shall provide the Medically Essential Service Customer with written notice specifying the date of disconnection based on the limited extension. The Medically Essential Service

# GULF POWER COMPANY

5.6 (Continued)

- ~~(b) Within the 30-day extended period, the customer has made mutually satisfactory arrangements to ensure payment of the past due amount and during this period the customer has agreed to continue to be responsible for payment of additional electric service consumed; and~~
- ~~(c) if at the end of the 30-day extended period provided, the customer has not paid the past due amount nor made mutually satisfactory arrangements to pay such amount and to be responsible for payment of additional service, then service may be discontinued without further notice; and~~
- ~~(d) In the event that service is continued for an additional period of time as provided under this section, the customer shall remain solely responsible for compliance with these provisions, and the Company does not assume, and expressly disclaims, any obligation or duty: to monitor the health or condition of the person requiring medically essential service; to insure continuous service; to call, contact, or otherwise advise of service interruptions; or to take any other action (or refrain from any action) that differs from the normal operations of the Company.~~

Customer shall be responsible for making mutually satisfactory arrangements to ensure payment within this additional extension of time for service provided by the Company and for which payment is past due, or to make other arrangements for meeting medically essential needs.

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~~FULL DUCT SYSTEM - A type of construction involving the placing of conductors in conduit or duct. Other facilities, such as transformers, may be above ground.~~

~~HIGH DENSITY SUBDIVISION - A subdivision having a density of six (6) or more dwelling units per acre.~~

**ISSUED BY:** Travis Bowden

**EFFECTIVE:** November 26, 1996

# GULF POWER COMPANY

6.1 (continued)

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