

# MCWHIRTER REEVES

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October 15, 2001

#### VIA HAND DELIVERY

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting **Betty Easley Conference Center** 4075 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

Re: Docket Nos. 010001-EI, 010002-EG, 010007-EI

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing and distribution are the original and 15 copies of:

- The Florida Industrial Power Users Group's Preliminary Issues in 010001-EI; 13093-01
- The Florida Industrial Power Users Group's Preliminary Issues in 010002-EG; 13094-01
- The Florida Industrial Power Users Group's Preliminary Issues in 010007-El. /3795-01

Please acknowledge receipt of the above on the extra copies enclosed herein and return it to me. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours truly,

Vicki Gordon Kaufman

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McWhirter, Reeves, McGlothlin, Davidson, Decker, Kaufman, Arnold & Steen, P.A.

# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION GINAL

In re: Fuel and purchased power cost recovery clause and generating performance incentive factor.

Docket No. 010001-EI

Filed: October 15, 2001

#### FIPUG's Preliminary Issues

Pursuant to the Case Assignment and Scheduling Record (CASR) in this docket, the Florida Industrial Power Users Group (FIPUG) files its Preliminary List of Issues and Positions. FIPUG reserves the right to amend this preliminary statement.

# PRELIMINARY ISSUES

### Generic Fuel Adjustment Issues

1.	<u>ISSUE</u> :	What are the appropriate final fuel adjustment true-up amounts for the period January, 2000 through December, 2000?
	<b>FIPUG</b> :	TECo should not be permitted to collect any of its true-up request pending the outcome of a Commission investigation into its wholesale practices.
2.	ISSUE:	What are the appropriate estimated/actual fuel adjustment true-up amounts for the period, 2001 through December, 2001?
	FIPUG:	TECo should not be permitted to collect any of its true-up request pending the outcome of a Commission investigation into its wholesale practices.
3.	ISSUE:	What are the appropriate total fuel adjustment true-up amounts to be collected/refunded from January, 2002 to December, 2002?
	<u>FIPUG</u> :	FIPUG has no position at this time except the positions expressed on Issues 21A-J and reserves the right to take a further position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.
4.	ISSUE:	What are the appropriate levelized fuel cost recovery factors for the period January, 2002 to December, 2002?
	<b>FIPUG</b> :	TECo's fuel factor should not be increased pending the outcome of a Commission investigation into its wholesale practices.

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5. **ISSUE**: What should be the effective date of the fuel adjustment charge and capacity cost recovery charge for billing purposes?

The new factors should be effective beginning with the first billing cycle for January 2002 and thereafter through the last billing cycle for December 2002. The first billing cycle may start before January 1, 2002, and the last billing cycle may end after December 30, 2002, so long as each customer is billed for twelve months regardless of when the factors become effective.

6. **ISSUE**: What are the appropriate fuel recovery line loss multipliers to be used in calculating the fuel cost recovery factors charged to each rate class/delivery voltage level class?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

7. **ISSUE**: What are the appropriate fuel cost recovery factors for each rate class/delivery voltage level class adjusted for line losses?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

8. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate revenue tax factor to be applied in calculating each investor-owned electric utility's levelized fuel factor for the projection period January, 2202 to December, 2002?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

9. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate benchmark level for calendar year 2001 for gains on non-separated wholesale energy sales eligible for a shareholder incentive as set forth by Order No. PSC-00-1744-PAA-EI, in Docket No. 991779-EI, issued September 26, 2000, for each investor-owned electric utility?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

10. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate estimated benchmark level for calendar year 2002 for gains on non-separated wholesale energy sales eligible for a shareholder incentive as set forth by Order No. PSC-00-1744-PAA-EI, in Docket No. 991779-EI, issued September 26, 2000, for each investor-owned electric utility.

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

11. **ISSUE**: Has each investor-owned electric utility taken reasonable steps to manage the risks associated with its fuel transactions through the use of physical and financial hedging practices?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

12. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for gains and losses from hedging an investor-owned electric utility's fuel transactions through futures contracts?

**FIPUG**: It is premature to determine a methodology for recovery until a transparent electricity futures exchange is in place and the utilities have developed operating experience. Without such an exchange, unless utilities waive all claims to confidentiality for such transactions, meaningful regulation in the sunshine cannot take place.

13. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for the premiums received and paid for hedging an investor-owned electric utility's fuel transactions through options contracts?

FIPUG: FIPUG endorses risk avoidance and potential profitability through the use of derivative contracts, but it is premature to determine a methodology for dealing with future contracts until derivative contracts are in place and utilities have actual operating experience for analysis.

14. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for the transaction costs associated with an investor-owned electric utility hedging its fuel transactions?

**<u>FIPUG</u>**: Transaction costs should be dealt with after the fact rather than based on forecasts of a highly volatile market.

15. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for capital projects with an inservice date on or after January 1, 2002, that are expected to reduce long-term fuel costs?

**FIPUG**: Such projects should be recovered through base rates, assuming the utility proves that its actions have been prudent.

16. **ISSUE**: What is the appropriate rate of return on the unamortized balance of capital

projects with an in-service date on or after January 1, 2002, that are expected to reduce long-term fuel costs?

FIPUG:

Capital costs should be recovered through base rates to avoid an unreasonable regulatory dichotomy which guarantees full recovery of some capital costs while the profitability of base rates is ignored. Carried to its logical extreme, investment in a more efficient power plant would be recoverable through the fuel cost recovery mechanism.

17. **ISSUE**:

If an investor-owned electric utility exceeds the ceiling on its authorized return on common equity, can and/or should the Commission reduce by a commensurate amount recovery of prudently-incurred expenditures through the Commission's fuel and purchased power cost recovery clause?

FIPUG:

No, but the Commission can enter a proposed agency action order which reduces rates in a manner similar to the enumerated cost recovery mechanisms. If a hearing is requested, it can be held in conjunction with the other cost recovery proceedings.

#### COMPANY-SPECIFIC FUEL ADJUSTMENT ISSUES

#### Florida Power & Light Company

**ISSUE 18A**: For the period March 1999, to March 2001, did FPL take reasonable steps to manage the risk associated with changes in natural gas prices?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

ISSUE 18B: Is FPL's aerial survey method of its coal inventory at Plant Scherer as stated in Audit Disclosure No. 1 of Audit Control No. 01-053-4-1 consistent with the method set forth in Order No. PSC-97-0359-FOF-EI, in Docket No. 970001-EI, issued March 31, 1997?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 18C**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for sales of natural gas and transportation capacity made by FPL to an affiliated company?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 18D**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for sales of natural gas to Florida Power and Light Energy Services?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

ISSUE 18E: How should FPL allocate the costs associated with its sales of natural gas to Florida Power and Light Energy Services?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 18F**: What is the appropriate regulatory treatment of Florida Power and Light Energy Services' revenues and costs made to customers within FPL's service area?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 18G:** What is the appropriate regulatory treatment of Florida Power and Light Energy Services' revenues and costs made to customer outside of FPL's service area?

#### Florida Power Corporation

ISSUE 19A: Has Florida Power Corporation confirmed the validity of the methodology used to determine the equity component of Electric Fuels Corporation's capital structure for calendar year 2000?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 19B**: Has Florida Power Corporation properly calculated the market price true-up for coal purchases from Powell Mountain?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 19C**: Has Florida Power Corporation properly calculated the 2000 price for waterborne transportation services provided by Electric Fuels Corporation?

FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 19D**: For the period March 1999, to March 2001, did Florida Power take reasonable steps to manage the risk associated with changes in natural gas prices?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 19E**: Were Florida Power's replacement fuel costs for the unplanned outage at Crystal River Unit 2, commencing on June 1, 2000, reasonable?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

ISSUE 19F: Should the Commission allow Florida Power to recover payments made to Lake Cogen, Ltd. resulting from litigation between Florida Power and Lake Cogen, Ltd.?

**FIPUG**: Payments should be recovered, but recovery should be amortized over more than one year. For example, if the litigation resulted in payments for a five-year period, the recovery should be made over a five-year period.

## Florida Public Utilities Company

ISSUE 20A: As stated in Audit Disclosure No. 1 in Audit Control No. 01-053-4-2, did Florida Public Utilities Company charge its ratepayers in its GSD class a fuel cost recovery factor that was less than the Commission-approved fuel cost recovery factor for that class?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 20B**: If Florida Public Utilities Company did charge its ratepayers in its GSD class a fuel cost recovery factor that was less than the Commission-approved fuel cost recovery factor for that class, what are the appropriate corrective actions Florida Public Utilities Company should take?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

### Tampa Electric Company

**ISSUE 21A**: What is the appropriate 2000 waterborne coal transportation benchmark price

for transportation services provided by affiliates of Tampa Electric Company?

FIPUG:

On information and belief, the transportation benchmark rate used for waterborne coal transportation is the more expensive cost of rail transportation. This benchmark procedure results in excess charges to retail electric consumers. The excess payments may be used to subsidized Tampa Electric's competitive posture in the Mississippi River water transportation market. Tampa Electric should be required to prove that the amounts it pays to its transportation affiliate are competitive with rates charged by competitive water carriers where waterborne transportation competition is in place.

**ISSUE 21B**:

Has Tampa Electric Company adequately justified any costs associated with transportation services provided by affiliates of Tampa Electric Company that exceed the 2000 waterborne transportation benchmark price?

FIPUG:

FIPUG demands strict proof and respectfully suggests a re-evaluation of the waterborne transportation benchmark.

ISSUE 21C:

For the period January 1998, to December 2000, were Tampa Electric Company's decisions regarding its wholesale energy purchases from and its wholesale energy sales to Hardee Power Partners reasonable?

FIPUG:

No.

ISSUE 21D:

For the period January 1998, to December 2000, were Tampa Electric Company's decisions regarding its wholesale energy purchases from and its wholesale energy sales to non-affiliated entities reasonable?

FIPUG:

No.

ISSUE 21E:

Should TECo be ordered to cease its current practice of allocating 100% of replacement power costs to retail customers and be ordered to allocate a pro rata share of all replacement power purchases to wholesale operations?

(FIPUG issue)

FIPUG:

Yes.

ISSUE 21F:

Should separated wholesale sales be charged average system fuel costs and should non-separated sales be charged system incremental costs?

(FIPUG issue)

FIPUG:

Yes.

**ISSUE 21G**: Should the Commission open a docket to require TECo to quantify the magnitude of the past overcharges to retail customers due to its inappropriate

management of its long-term wholesale contracts?

(FIPUG issue)

**FIPUG:** Yes.

ISSUE 21H: Should the Commission hold TECo's proposed \$86 million fuel true-up in

abeyance pending the outcome of the new docket recommended in Issue 21G?

(FIPUG issue)

**FIPUG:** Yes.

**ISSUE 211**: Should the Commission open a docket to conduct an investigation of TECo's

affiliate transactions and its procurement of power for its wholesale customers to determine whether TECo's actions regarding affiliate transactions are

prudent and beneficial to retail customers?

(FIPUG issue)

FIPUG: Yes.

**ISSUE 21J**: Should the Commission approve TECo's requested fuel factor?

(FIPUG issue)

FIPUG: No. The fuel factor should not be approved until after the Commission

conducts a thorough investigation to TECo's wholesale pricing practices.

**Gulf Power Company** 

ISSUE 22A: Were Gulf Power's replacement fuel costs for the unplanned outage at Crist

Unit 2, commencing on August 2, 2000, reasonable?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

ISSUE 22B: As stated in Audit Disclosure No. 3 of Audit Control No. 01-053-1-1 and

Audit disclosure No. 3 of Audit Control No. 01-023-1-1, did Gulf Power Company overstate Interchange Sales reported for the year ended December

31, 2000, by \$385,796?

**FIPUG:** FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 22C**: If Gulf Power Company did overstate Interchange Sales reported for the year ended December 31, 2000, by \$385,796, what are the appropriate corrective

actions that Gulf Power Company should take?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

#### GENERIC GENERATING PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE FACTOR ISSUES

**ISSUE 23**: What is the appropriate generation performance incentive factor (GPIF)

reward or penalty for performance achieved during the period January, 2000 through December, 2000 for each investor-owned electric utility subject to the

GPIF?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 24**: What should the GPIF targets/ranges be for the period January, 2002 through

December, 2002 for each investor-owned electric utility subject to the GPIF?

**FIPUG:** FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 25**: What are the appropriate final capacity cost recovery true-up amounts for the

period January, 2000 through December, 2000?

**FIPUG:** FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 26**: What are the appropriate estimated/actual capacity cost recovery true-up

amounts for the period January, 2001 through December, 2001?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 27**: What are the appropriate total capacity cost recovery true-up amounts to be

collected/refunded during the period January, 2002 through December, 2002?

FIPUG: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 28**: What are the appropriate projected net purchased power capacity cost

recovery amounts to be included in the recovery factor for the period January,

2002 through December, 2002?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

**ISSUE 29**: What are the appropriate jurisdictional separation factors to be applied to

determine the capacity costs to be recovered during the period January, 2002

through December, 2002?

**FIPUG**: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

ISSUE 30: What are the projected capacity cost recovery factors for each rate

class/delivery class for the period January, 2002 through December, 2002?

FIPUG: FIPUG has no position at this time, but reserves the right to take a position

on this issue by the date of the prehearing conference.

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Power Users Group

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the FIPUG's Preliminary Issues has been served by (\*) hand delivery, or U.S. Mail this 15th day of October 2001, to the following parties of record:

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