ORIGINAL

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May 7, 2002

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of the Commission Clerk & Administrative Services Capital Circle Office Center 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re:

Territorial Dispute Between City of Bartow and Tampa Electric Company ("TECO")

Case No. 011333-EU

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed with this letter are the original and sixteen copies of a Response of Bartow to TECO's Motion to Dismiss and Answer in Opposition to Bartow's Motion for Continuance. Please file the original pleading in the Commission's file for this matter. Please then stamp one copy with the date and time filed and return it to me in the enclosed stamped, addressed envelope.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours, **AUS** CAF COM. CTR **ECR** GCL OPC MMS Enclosures SEC Mr. Richard A. Williams OTH

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition of City of Bartow, Florida,	
Regarding a Territorial Dispute with Tampa	
Electric Company, Polk County, Florida.	

DOCK	ET No.	011333	3-EU	
Filed: _				_

## RESPONSE OF BARTOW TO TECO'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND ANSWER IN OPPOSITION TO BARTOW'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

The City of Bartow, Florida ("Bartow"), by and through its undersigned attorneys, responds to Tampa Electric Company's ("TECO") Motion to Dismiss and Answer in Opposition to the City of Bartow's Motion for Continuance of Final Hearing and Adjustment of Procedural Schedule, dated May 3, 2002, as follows:

- 1. Bartow's Motion for Continuance was based on the Florida Public Service Commission ("PSC") staff's expressed concerns that the current existing boundary line dividing the Old Florida Plantation ("OFP") development does not comport with good engineering or planning principles and would result in inefficiencies and unnecessary expenses to both Bartow and TECO.
- 2. The PSC staff also expressed the opinion that the ultimate configuration of the OFP development in terms of roads, houses, and recreational facilities could have a significant bearing on the merits of the modification of the territorial agreement or resolution of the territorial dispute.
- 3. It was in response to these expressed concerns and with a knowledge that the current configuration of the OFP development with respect to its roadways and other significant development features was being restructured that Bartow proposed the continuance.
- 4. It is noted that the requested continuance is for a finite period of time and does not extend these proceedings beyond a reasonable time frame for resolving a dispute of this nature.

  \*\*DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE\*\*

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5. Bartow realizes that its petition seeks to serve the entire OFP development.

However, Bartow understands that there may be engineering and operational considerations that

could result in some division of the territory in dispute that would not strictly follow the current

territorial boundary.

6. TECO says that holding the procedural schedule in abeyance would be a waste of ·

the PSC's valuable time and resources. Bartow disagrees. Holding the case in abeyance would

not require any additional interim work on behalf of the PSC or PSC staff and would not cause a

waste of the PSC's time and resources.

7. Bartow wants a prompt resolution of the issues in this case. However, if a brief

delay would result in the availability of complete and relevant data and information is the

prudent course of action.

8. The PSC has already denied TECO's motion to dismiss. The filing of a motion

for continuance by Bartow is not grounds for a motion to dismiss under the Florida Rules of

Civil Procedure or any other recognized, accepted procedural framework.

WHEREFORE, the City of Bartow requests that this court act favorably on its motion for

a continuance and deny Tampa Electric Company's motion to dismiss.

Davisson F. Dunlap, Jr.

Florida Bar Number 0136730

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Attorneys for Petitioner, City of Bartow

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Response of Bartow to TECO's Motion to Dismiss and Answer in Opposition to Bartow's Motion for Continuance has been furnished by United States mail on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002, to:

Mr. Harry W. Long, Jr. Assistant General Counsel Tampa Electric Company Post Office Box 111 Tampa, FL 33601

Mr. Lee L. Willis Mr. James D. Beasley Ausley & McMullen Post Office Box 391 Tallahassee, FL 32302

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