BEFORE THE

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 031033-EI

IN RE: TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY'S

2004-2008 WATERBORNE TRANSPORTATION

CONTRACT WITH TECO TRANSPORT AND

ASSOCIATED BENCHMARK

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

AND

EXHIBIT

OF

BRENT DIBNER

ON BEHALF OF

TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY

CONTROL ON DAY

STEPPENTIAL VERSION

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 1 PREPARED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY 2 OF 3 BRENT DIBNER 4 ON BEHALF OF 5 TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY 6 Please state your name, business address, occupation and 8 Q. employer. 9 10 My name is Brent Dibner. My business address is Dibner 11 Α. Maritime Associates, LLC, 151 Laurel Road, Chestnut Hill, 12 Massachusetts 02467. 13 14 Are you the same Brent Dibner who submitted Prepared 15 Direct Testimony in this proceeding? 16 17 Yes, I am. Α. 18 19 What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony? Q. 20 21 The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to address Α. 22 certain inaccuracies and deficiencies in the assertions 23 Anatoly and conclusions of the testimony of Dr. 24 Hochstein, testifying on behalf of Ms. Catherine L. 25

Calypool, et. al and Mr. Michael J. Majoros, Jr., testifying on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC") and Florida Industrial Power Users Group ("FIPUG").

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Q. Please summarize your rebuttal testimony?

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Α. I firmly believe for the reasons detailed in my testimony the operating specifications contained Electric's request for proposal ("RFP") are common in the industry and are familiar to and easily understood by perspective bidders. This bid solicitation represents the distinct requirements of the necessary coal movements to meet Tampa Electric's needs and asks for responses that will meet those stated needs and preferences. Dr. Hochstein offers certain criticisms of the request RFP, he has admitted he has no experience in drafting or evaluating RFPs while I have represented both carriers and shippers in this process for many years. It is a process with which I am thoroughly familiar.

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More specifically, Dr. Hochstein's criticism of the total volume requirement is particularly misplaced. Any prudent shipper would prefer to rely on a single-focused

carrier wherever possible because such a carrier provides many distinct advantages including, but not limited, to economies of scale, flexibility, responsiveness, reliability and the ability to respond to the specific and particular needs of the shipper. The fragmentation of the movement of Tampa Electric's requirements would require a higher rate according to Dr. Hochstein's own ". . . No carrier could reasonably operate equal to or lower than TECO Transport." I agree with Dr. Hochstein. Consequently, if the total volume requirement had been removed from the RFP the resulting market rates would be higher than the current TECO Transport rates.

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I further agree with Dr. Hochstein that no other coastal or ocean carrier could match TECO Transport's rates. This is because from the inception of the integrated waterborne transportation system, TECO Energy has created a means by which Tampa Electric and its ratepayers have the economy of low cost fuel delivery in a highly continued to reliable manner. TECO Transport has improve and tailor its fleet to meet the specific needs of Tampa Electric and this has provided significant Tampa Electric's ratepayers. The benefits to rates

provided by TECO Transport are consistently lower than rail rates and have ensured that a single railroad could not win the business, drive away the marine option, establish a captive customer and raise rates in the future. TECO Transport's rates in the current contract are substantially below those of other marine vessels and are also below the CSXT railroad bid when adjusted to reflect the full cost of the movement.

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Hochstein has incorrectly asserted that "structural problems" with Tampa Electric's RFP led to few responses. This simply is incorrect. The RFP sets forth meaningful statement of the performance requirements in terms that are appropriate for service required by Tampa Electric. It did not contain operational limitations on prospective bidders. essentially the same RFP structure that Tampa Electric used in 1998 which attracted responses for terminal service and inline transportation.

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I find the consideration and analysis of backhaul by both Dr. Hochstein and Mr. Majoros are totally inappropriate in determining market rates. Backhaul is simply not

relevant market for dedicated to rates а transportation service for a single commodity as I will explain in detail later in my testimony. A consideration of backhaul is not for outside conjecture, interference, confiscation, or reallocation in setting market rates. Moreover, Mr. Majoros' analysis presumes that there are backhaul revenues while failing to include incremental backhaul costs which are significant. Both Dr. Hochstein and Mr. Majoros overstate and oversimplify the actual for northbound backhaul These opportunity cargo. opportunities are extremely limited and are already taken by other businesses and contracts. The backhaul ratios used are incorrect and misleading and are arbitrary and completely unsupported in some cases conjecture. Backhaul rates represent incremental benefits to carriers and the carrier in any market has no obligation to give benefits with back orshare these customers. Consequently, any presumptions regarding a backhaul rate are entirely speculative and inappropriate in setting market rates.

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The criticism of the models I used in my market rate analysis for Tampa Electric is also unfounded. I based

my study of this market on a careful factual analysis of the elements of the transportation system and I took great care in my review of market conditions. I have applied my more than 27 years of continuous involvement in these markets and my results, unlike Dr. Hochstein's, are not based on public port policy studies and faulty U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") data. It is based on actual experience in moving millions of The models I use are clear, explicit, tons of cargo. detailed and above all realistic and fair. The testimony describes the great lengths that I went to. I am sure that my study was thorough and reflective of the market. Contrary to the assertions of Mr. Majoros, my models have been available to the Commission Staff and intervenors for months for them to review and gain a complete understanding of how and what the models considered. The Commission Staff and intervenors have been free to make changes to the assumptions to test results of the models and their sensitivities. Further, the input values that drove the calculations in the models were allowed to be Only the specific formulas that were in the models were held constant to ensure the integrity of the models. This fact, however, did not preclude intervenors

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from establishing their own model of their own design. Further, contrary to the assertions of Mr. Majoros, I have described all the input that I relied on in my study and other experts in waterborne transportation who have derived their own experiences could have used their knowledge to corroborate or reject the inputs in my models. Consequently, Mr. Majoros has only put forth generalized and unsupported criticisms of the models. His adjustments are little more than speculation with no basis in the bulk transportation marketplace. Further, Dr. Hochstein made many errors in his analysis of both the models and the marketplace which I discuss somewhat later in my testimony.

With respect to cost-plus pricing, I think that all of the elements presented make it very plain that there is a market for the transportation of coal from its supply to Tampa which should be the focus of the Commission in this proceeding. Furthermore, there is a definite market for each of the three legs of the waterborne transportation system, contrary to the assertions of Dr. Hochstein. TECO Transport simply is the most efficient and least cost option for Tampa Electric Company in this market

because it has the largest, most efficient and fastest fleet available to serve Tampa Electric's needs. For all the reasons previously acknowledged by this Commission, cost-of-service pricing should not be adopted. It is clear that a market does exist for all three segments, bids were received from the railroad and reasonable and appropriate market rates have been determined based on the bid responses and my comprehensive analysis. Again, the reasonableness of my market rates is specifically corroborated by the railroad bid. Moreover, the rate I recommended is also lower than the previous contract rate that expired year-end 2003.

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Dr. Hochstein's assertions that TECO Transport barges are inherently inferior to ships in the preference trade and ships within the capacity are same particularly I detail uninformed as later in my testimony. Dr. Hochstein's analysis is simply incorrect because his data is incomplete and inaccurate. Again, TECO Transport barges are among the largest, fastest and most reliable units due to their interconnection features and their many opportunities to participate in the preference trades. These barges are among the most competitive in

the U. S.-flag fleet and therefore, demand high rates in the preference trade because they are well maintained and extensively re-fitted to provide low cost transportation for their owner and customers. These barges could be competitive in several trades including coal, fertilizer, phosphates, pet coke, grain, scrap metal and cement to name a few.

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believe Hochstein's that Dr. alternative rate for numerous methodology is invalid reasons detailed later in my testimony. Dr. Hochstein's analysis is extremely rudimentary and filled with errors that are a reflection of the shortcomings and errors of the Corps data upon which he relies as I explain further in greater detail my testimony. Likewise Dr. in Hochstein's calculation of TECO Transport's freight rates based on barge earnings is replete with many errors such as shortterm operating costs, financing terms and the exclusion Additionally, his calculation of TECO of port costs. Transport's freight rates based on foreign competition completely ignores the dramatic strong upward trend in rates for Handymax and Panamax vessels which have more than quadrupled from August 2002 through March of 2004.

The charter rates for Handymax and small older Panamaxes are two to three times the rates used in Dr. Hochstein's model. He also fundamentally failed to adjust for draft limitations that exist at present and will for years in the future. The transportation arrangements for Tampa Electric had to be available starting January 1, 2004, not at some future date years into the future.

Q. Have you prepared an exhibit in support of your testimony?

A. Yes, Exhibit No.___(BD-2), consists of one two-page document, which is furnished to provide corrections to certain assumptions and omissions of Dr. Hochstein's calculation of freight rates based on barge earnings.

TAMPA ELECTRIC'S REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Q. On Page 5 of his testimony, Dr. Hochstein states Tampa Electric's 2003 RFP contains "so many industry non-standard and otherwise restrictive conditions." Do you agree?

A. No. The terminology, requirements, conditions, rates of cargo handling, and other operating specifications

contained in the Tampa Electric RFP are common in the industry and would be familiar and easily understood by In addition, the bid solicitation prospective bidders. represents the distinctive requirements of the necessary coal movements to meet Tampa Electric's needs. The solicitation sets forth a meaningful definition of a exists, and asks for proposals that that responsive to Tampa Electric's stated needs and Hochstein's conclusion that preferences. Dr. Electric's RFP contains "so many industry non-standard and otherwise restrictive conditions" reflects his lack experience regarding RFP of knowledge and actual Tampa Electric's specifications well as specific as During Dr. Hochstein's deposition, he admitted needs. that he has no experience in drafting or evaluating RFPs. [Hochstein Deposition Transcript, Volume I, pg 16-17]

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Q. Which of Dr. Hochstein's assertions regarding Tampa Electric's RFP requirements are you addressing?

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A. I will address the assertions Dr. Hochstein makes regarding: 1) demurrage, 2) total volume requirements and 3) RFP structure. Tampa Electric witnesses Joann T. Wehle and Frederick Murrell will address the remainder of Dr. Hochstein's assertions regarding Tampa Electric's RFP

requirements.

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DEMURRAGE RFP REQUIREMENT

Q. On page 17 of Dr. Hochstein's testimony he concludes that the demurrage requirement in the RFP was neither an industry standard nor a reasonable requirement. How do you respond?

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I do not agree. Tampa Electric stated in its RFP that Α. "Tampa Electric will not be responsible for demurrage at the terminal," referring to the Lower Mississippi loading terminal. This means that the terminal and the ocean carrier must internally absorb or settle any demurrage claims that arise and that the outcome of any claims cannot be passed on to Tampa Electric for payment. is entirely reasonable because Tampa Electric has no control over the terminal orthe barge operators' performances. Therefore, this requirement protects both Tampa Electric and its customers from additional expenses.

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TOTAL VOLUME RFP REQUIREMENT

Q. On page 26 of his testimony, Dr. Hochstein states that he believes the "all or nothing" total volume RFP requirement excluded smaller carriers that could handle a

portion of the total volume at a lower cost. Please respond.

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It is a widely known fact that shippers prefer to rely Α. upon a single-focused carrier wherever possible because a single carrier provides economies of scale, flexibility, responsiveness, greater ability to customize services and technology to meet particular needs, simplified operational planning, scheduling and coordination, minimal financial administration and a direct path for establishing responsibility and avoiding cross-claims. This is particularly the case when 1) a carrier capable of providing efficient and effective service within a high activity region, like TECO Transport's focus on the lower Ohio River and the trade to a single discharge terminal in Davant, Louisiana; and 2) when a carrier has a positive, long-standing relationship with There are examples of this both inside and the customer. outside the inland industry. For example, the US Gulf and Atlantic-based asphalt shipping industry relies on a single carrier, Penn Maritime, as the specialist coastwise asphalt transportation. Also, three utilities Massachusetts, New Hampshire, in Connecticut, and industrial consumers in Maine individually chose a single carrier to meet their domestic coal transportation needs.

- Q. Dr. Hochstein advocates that the "all or nothing" total volume requirement was not reasonable and that bids for transporting partial volumes should have been allowed. Given his assertion, what would be the impact on rates?
- A. The rates would be higher according to Dr. Hochstein's own testimony:
 - "Even if they had the technical capacity, due to the smaller size of their barges, no carrier could reasonably offer rates equal to or lower than TECO Transport." (Hochstein pg 26, lines 2-4)
 - "TECO Transportation barges are likely the only reasonable way for Tampa Electric to transport coal between Davant, LA and Tampa in the future." (Hochstein pg 38, lines 8-10)
 - Therefore, if the "all or nothing" requirement total volume had been removed from the RFP, according to Dr. Hochstein, the resulting market rates would be https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/ than the TECO Transport rates.
- Q. Dr. Hochstein concludes on page 24 of his testimony that

there were no other coastal or ocean carriers that could match TECO Transport's rates. How do you respond?

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I agree. From the inception of the integrated waterborne transportation system, TECO sought to create a means by which Tampa Electric and its ratepayers would have the economy of low cost fuel delivered in a highly reliable The movement of coal to Tampa is a unique manner. movement because it is the largest single movement of any other commodity movement for а customer in the US coastwise trade. Throughout the more than 50 years of this movement, Tampa Electric and its ratepayers have benefited from delivery costs that were consistently lower than rail rates and ensured that a single railroad could not win the business, drive away the marine option, establish a captive customer and then raise rates in future contract periods as is the norm.

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Dr. Hochstein is also correct that no single vessel or group of vessels in the market are in a position to offer rates that would be lower than TECO Transport's rates or the rates I recommended in my report. Tampa Electric's contract rates with TECO Transport provide savings to ratepayers because the rates are substantially below those of other marine vessels and are also below the CSXT

railroad bid, when the proper adjustments are made as discussed in witness Wehle's direct testimony.

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RFP STRUCTURE

Q. Dr. Hochstein asserts on page 22 of his testimony that there were structural problems with Tampa Electric's RFP that led to few responses. How do you respond?

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sets forth a I do not agree. The RFP meaningful A. salient performance requirements statement of the terms that are appropriate for the service required by It did not limit the sizes of the Tampa Electric. vessels or impose specific technologies. It did not require unloading or specify speeds. It did not require bidders to have personnel, fleeting sites, switch boats, It is essentially the same RFP or other activities. structure that was used in Tampa Electric's last solicitation in 1998. Both the 1998 and 2003 solicitation attracted responses for terminal service and inland transportation, even as the industry consolidated and was experiencing very difficult market conditions.

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BACKHAUL

Q. Should backhaul opportunities be considered in calculating Tampa Electric's approved transportation service rate as Dr. Hochstein and Mr. Majoros contend?

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A. No, backhaul should not be considered when determining market rates for providing Tampa Electric's coal transportation services for several reasons. First, backhaul is irrelevant to the market rates for dedicated one-way transportation service for a single commodity. The headhaul rate is the relevant rate.

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shippers and carriers seek the best economic arrangements they can make in the marketplace. Shippers seek competitive rates; carriers try to maximize earnings and rates. Competitive pressures and service requirements exert pressure and temper the balance between long- and short-term interests. Backhaul rates represent incremental benefits to carriers that are low cost providers. A carrier has no obligation to give back or share these benefits with headhaul customers.

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Third, I have researched the inland waterways headhaul and backhaul markets for many years, often working with major carriers. The backhaul market is far less available to open hopper barges, like TECO Transport's, on the inland waterways moving through the Louisiana to Lower Ohio River corridor. On the ocean side, TECO

Transport has methodically used its fleet's economies of scale and the unique unloading technologies of some of the barges in the trade to provide superior solutions.

Fourth, the terms, duration, requirements and flexibility of the fertilizer and phosphate rock contracts are confidential. It would be reckless and cavalier for me to presume any spillover revenue or costs from these other undisclosed contractual relationships between TECO Transport and its customers.

Fifth, there is the very real possibility that the trade volumes of the coal or the fertilizer industry could change dramatically, thereby creating higher or lower volumes of activity that could destroy or disrupt the terms and even existence of backhaul.

Additionally, I must point out that while Mr. Majoros presumes that there are backhaul revenues, he fails to include in his analysis the incremental backhaul costs of cleaning, shifting berths, extra sailing distances in Tampa Bay and the Lower Mississippi River, and additional loading and discharge times. Mr. Majoros also omitted the costs for the additional fuel required to push fully-loaded inland barges upstream against the river currents

of the Lower Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and the additional fuel required to push fully loaded ocean barges against the Gulfstream currents as well as potential reductions in inland river tow size and speed. These costs are not trivial. Regardless, in my experience consideration of backhaul is not for outside conjecture, interference, confiscation, or reallocation when setting market rates.

Q. So, is it appropriate for Tampa Electric to pay a headhaul rate that includes the full round trip, without consideration or credit for any backhaul cargo that might arise?

A. Yes. This approach to market pricing is consistent with the necessity for dedicated service and reliability. If TECO Transport is able to coordinate backhaul within the constraints of serving Tampa Electric, then they are entitled to the market returns of that business.

Q. On page 27 of his testimony, Dr. Hochstein maintains that additional responses from inland waterways barge companies would have resulted in lower bid proposals because "these companies would have considered backhaul cargoes in calculating the headhaul rates submitted to

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Tampa Electric." How do you respond?

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Α. That is pure speculation. Dr. Hochstein has no basis for concluding that, if an additional carrier had bid, its rate to transport five million tons for a five-year movement of southbound coal would have been below the rates I developed. The rates I developed were for the full five million tons and were very close to the rates bid by ACBL, an inland barge company, for just one million tons. Additionally, Dr. Hochstein's assumptions are simplified and lead to erroneous conclusions. example, the actual opportunities for northbound backhaul cargoes into the Lower Ohio River are extremely limited and are already taken by other business and contracts. Dr. Hochstein's suggestion that the northbound backhaul ratio on the Lower Mississippi is as high as 65 percent is incorrect and misleading; the percentage provided in aggregate by the Corps, fails to consider the separation of cargoes that require different types of barges and the geographic origins and destinations of cargoes.

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Dr. Hochstein also fails to recognize that backhaul is not just a revenue stream for carriers. He makes no attempt to evaluate the cost and operational implications of backhaul business. For example, on page 19 of my

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report which was filed as an Exhibit No. 1, Document No. 1 to my direct testimony, it is clearly shown that backhaul rates into the upper portion of the Ohio River and into the industrially diverse Pittsburgh area are consistently much higher than the southbound rates. However, when combining reported spot northbound and southbound business, the round-trip market rate for a barge is at least \$14.00 per ton, far more than the contractual rates that I proposed in the \$6.00 to \$7.00 range.

Q. Mr. Majoros states on page 21 of his testimony that, in a competitive market, a provider would allocate a portion of costs to backhaul so the provider's rate can be lower to keep the customer. In a non-competitive market, the provider can keep the backhaul revenues as "gravy." Is that what you are proposing?

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A. Not at all. As I previously stated, backhaul is irrelevant when setting market rates for providing dedicated one-way transportation service for a single commodity as is the case with Tampa Electric. Backhaul rates represent incremental benefits to carriers and the carrier has no obligation to give back or share these benefits with headhaul customers. Any presumptions

regarding a backhaul rate would be entirely speculative and inappropriate when setting market rates. Like Dr. Hochstein, Mr. Majoros presumes that all backhaul revenues are "gravy" but does not presume any costs. Substantial costs are incurred for cleaning, loading and unloading, extra miles, voyage time, tugs, pilotage, etc. In addition, berth congestion and cargo handling rates may introduce additional delays. Regardless, backhaul is irrelevant when setting market rates.

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Q. What additional information did Mr. Majoros rely on to conclude that TECO Transport relies on backhaul in its business?

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Mr. Majoros points to statements on TECO Transport's web site and in TECO Energy's Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. TECO Transport's web site states that TECO Barge Line is growing, as "evidenced by the success TECO Barge Line has enjoyed with its northbound shipping." The 10K states that "Northbound river shipments of steel-related raw materials are expected to improve in 2003 as the U.S. economy improves." ". . . In the meantime, TECO Transport expects to move increased volumes of fertilizers and petcoke northbound on the river system." These

statements cannot be relied on to support a robust backhaul business. The barge business is inland and may be unrelated to commodities being backhauled from Tampa. Similarly, northbound shipments can be headhaul to some locations and/or cargoes that require covered hopper barges which predominately carry cement, fertilizers, steel products, ores, non-ferrous metals, salt, and most other northbound commodities, such as steel.

Q. Mr. Majoros used data obtained from the Port of Tampa to estimate the amount of backhaul on the ocean segment.

Should the Commission consider Mr. Majoros' backhaul adjustment to the ocean portion of the rate?

A. No, the Commission should disregard Mr. Majoros' recommended backhaul adjustment on the ocean segment for the same reasons I discussed above.

Q. How did Mr. Majoros determine the amount of the backhaul adjustment for the river segment?

A. Mr. Majoros lacked data quantifying backhaul on this segment, so he arbitrarily used the average backhaul ratio of the ocean vessels, which he arbitrarily assumed was 69.34 percent. He then reduced the river rate I

proposed by one-half this amount, or 34.67 percent.

Q. Is Mr. Majoros' approach reasonable?

A. Absolutely not. Mr. Majoros cannot assume that the backhaul ratio is the same since the river trade is totally different from the ocean trade. My analysis of 2002 traffic moving on the lower Mississippi River suggests that the amount of backhaul available to open hopper barges is very limited on the Lower Mississippi mainstem to all destinations (the Middle Mississippi, the Upper Mississippi, the Illinois Waterway, the Missouri River, the Arkansas McLellan-Kerr, etc.).

Q. What is your recommendation to the Commission with respect to Mr. Majoros' backhaul adjustment?

A. For the reasons I stated above, I would recommend that the Commission totally disregard Mr. Majoros' backhaul adjustment. It is not appropriate for the Commission to consider any such adjustment when determining market rates for waterborne transportation services.

MR. DIBNER'S MODELS AND MARKET RATE ANALYSIS

Q. What is your response to Dr. Hochstein's assertion that

your model is purely theoretical?

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Throughout Α. involvement this mу in waterborne transportation solicitation, and previously in 1998 and 1988, I have based my study of rates on a careful factual analysis of the elements of the transportation system and have taken great care in my review of the market including bids and general market conditions. Unlike Dr. Hochstein, who has no actual experience in bidding on setting business, rates or analyzing waterborne transportation costs for or with actual marine carriers, I have more than 27 years of continuous involvement in these markets. My experience is not based on public port studies. Instead, it is based on actual experience moving hundreds of millions of tons of cargo.

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The models that I used are clear, explicit, detailed, and above all else realistic and fair. In fact. Hochstein has not made single one suggestion orallegation that any aspect of the models themselves is improper or misstates costs. Dr. Hochstein's adjustments are crude, erroneous in many cases and disingenuous in others.

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My work reflects the responsibility for setting rates

which are fair to the shipper and carrier. I went to great lengths to ensure that my study was thorough and reflective of the market. I analyzed a total of 135 voyages, examining each vessel in its own right. ensured that TECO Transport's rates reflected an average rate rather than the rate of the tug-barge unit with the highest required rate. I averaged time charter earnings opportunity costs with depreciated replacement values in a rigorous attempt to bring TECO Transport economies further into the rate-setting. I examined the supply and demand balance of the US-flag fleet and evaluated more than five years of monthly historical rates to identify trends on the inland waterways. I also refrained from including any standby or capacity charges for equipment could have reasonably been charged meet fluctuating demands on a monthly or annual basis. My models are anything but theoretical.

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Q. On page 18 of his testimony, Mr. Majoros was critical of your models because of limitations from editing formulas and variables within the models. Please explain how access to the model was provided to the Commission Staff and intervenors in this case?

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A. The Commission Staff and the intervenors were given

access to my models so they could review and gain an understanding of how the models worked and what they considered. I flew to Tallahassee to provide a tutorial session for the Commission Staff and the intervenors. They were free to make changes to the assumptions and to test the results of the models and their sensitivities. The input values that drove the calculations in the models were allowed to be edited. Only the formulas that run the models were held constant to ensure the integrity of the models.

Q. Could the intervenors create their own models if they did not agree with your analysis?

A. Absolutely. All of the intervenors had ample opportunity to retain a waterborne transportation consultant to develop market models of their own design.

Q. Mr. Majoros agrees that you have "extensive experience" in the area of waterborne transportation, but says that data derived from your own experience cannot necessarily be verified by others. Is this true?

A. Mr. Majoros' statement on this point can be said of every expert who draws on his or her professional experience.

However, the important point is that I have shared with the Commission Staff and the intervenors all the formulas that make up my models and all of the inputs I relied waterborne study. Other experts in upon my could have used their knowledge transportation corroborate or reject the inputs to my Additionally, none of the intervenors have challenged my assumptions despite the fact that every single variable was set forth explicitly for review by Commission Staff and the intervenors. The voluntary tutorial session I Commission Staff and the provided the conducted intervenors an explanation of the data and the models' Tampa Electric also responded to numerous interrogatories regarding the models. Supporting data has been provided in discovery and in my report. this, Majoros' generalized criticisms Mr. of models and his adjustments appear to be little more than speculation because Mr. Majoros has provided no basis for his concepts of the marketplace that bear on the bulk transportation marketplace.

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Q. Dr. Hochstein states on page 40 of his testimony that "Witness Dibner's methodology apparently assumes that replacement cost, or the cost based on construction of a new TECO Transport fleet and other similar dry bulk

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vessels, approximates the supply side...". Do you agree?

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A. No. Dr. Hochstein is mistaken in his understanding and explanation that I applied replacement costs for my ocean rate analysis. In fact, my analysis was based on the depreciated value of full replacement cost in almost all cases. This applied substantial reductions in the cost of the assets. The replacement value of the core barges is \$193.4 million; I only used \$95.2 million as my basis. My total value for the ocean fleet amounts to less than 30 percent of TECO Transport's total assets, which substantially understates the investment cost because of vessels under lease agreements.

Q. Do you agree with Dr. Hochstein's assertion that it is impossible to know the costs of US-flag tugs and dry bulk barges?

A. No. The U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration ("MarAd") publishes the actual costs of all dry bulk barges and ocean barge towing and pushing tugs in its Title XI mortgage guarantee program. Once adjusted to 2003 cost levels, they provide a very sound basis for understanding the magnitude of costs. In addition, active and expert naval architects in the tug-

barge design arena are constantly working with shipyard quotes and contract prices.

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Q. Do you agree with Dr. Hochstein's statement that "the cost that determines price is always the "opportunity cost" and not a theoretical replacement cost?"

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A. Yes, I do and that is why I considered the replacement cost of the vessels and also the estimated value of these assets in the marketplace. Overall, my approach served to lower TECO Transport's rates below the real opportunity costs that Dr. Hochstein and Ι determine the price. I did not permit the fleet to price at the highest required rate of the tug-barge, but rather ensured that the efficiencies of the TECO Transport ocean fleet were reflected in the market rate calculations.

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Dr. Hochstein concurs with my assessment that smaller, slower, non-articulated or non-integrated tug-barges cannot possibly provide lower transportation rates for one million tons of coal, let alone five million tons. As a result, I focused on TECO Transport's rates by exploring their earnings potential in the markets they could serve. As I previously stated, I did this by using 135 preference transactions served by barges

participate in the Jones Act trade. As shown in my report and in additional documentation provided in discovery responses, the information clearly suggests that vessels that chose to leave their highly utilized activities in Jones Act trade were earning rates that were comparable and consistent.

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COST-PLUS PRICING

Q. Dr. Hochstein concludes that cost-plus pricing, especially for the coastal leg, may be the best way to determine fair and reasonable coal transportation rates since no one can effectively compete. How do you respond?

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I do not agree. Dr. Hochstein has not demonstrated that there is not a market for the coastal or ocean segment or that the market rates from my analysis are above market price. With respect to the coastal segment, Hochstein acknowledges that there are other coastal barges that could delver coal to Tampa, but that they unable to pursue the contract due were to prior commitments. In addition, Dr. Hochstein acknowledges that TECO Transport is the most efficient and least cost option for Tampa Electric's ocean-going coal movement. The fact that the present supply of vessels in the market does not include another fleet of the size and capacity to serve Tampa Electric does not support the conclusion that there is no market; rather, it reflects the competitive and efficient use of the market's available operating capacity. My task was to analyze in detail the participants in the markets and derive from my analysis fair market rates for transportation services required by Tampa Electric. That is what I did and the use of the resulting rates would be far superior to any type of cost-plus pricing.

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As Dr. Hochstein has acknowledged, and as the Commission previously recognized, cost-of-service has pricing requires specialized knowledge. Ιt is expensive, contentious and time consuming; accordingly, the Commission required that market prices should be established for affiliate provided transportation-related services, if possible. Therefore, there is no reason for cost-plus regulation given that a market does exist for all three segments. Bids were received from the railroad and reasonable and appropriate market rates have been determined based the bid on responses and my Again, the reasonableness of the comprehensive analysis. market rate I recommended is corroborated by the railroad bid as discussed in witness Wehle's direct testimony.

The rate I recommended is also lower than the previous contract rate that expired year-end 2003.

PREFERENCE TRADE

Q. Do you agree with Dr. Hochstein's assertion that TECO

Transport's barges are inherently inferior to ships in
the preference trades and to ships with the same
capacity?

- A. No, I do not. First, in response to Dr. Hochstein's testimony, I must clarify the terms integrated tug-barge ("ITB"), articulated tug-barge ("ATB") and tug-barge as he incorrectly referenced them.
 - An integrated tug barge is a mechanically linked tug pushing a barge 100 percent of the time, usually with a linkage that restricts the tug's movements in two axes of movement, essentially rigidly locking the tug to the barge. An ITB is essentially a ship that has a small crew and is often built at a lower overall cost. ITB tugs are generally not used without their consort barge. Other than TECO Transport, only one other ITB is in coastwise trade, primarily in the Pacific coast sugar trade.
 - An articulated tug barge is a mechanically linked tug pushing a barge 100 percent of the time, usually with

a linkage that restricts the tug's movement in one axis, usually transverse, essentially leaving the tug free to move in another axis. Other equipment, such as hydraulic pads, notch configurations and other features may be involved. The tug involved with ATBs can usually retract its linkage gear and can work with multiple barges, and operate as a sea-going towing barges if necessary. Other than TECO Transport, no other barges have ATB linkages and consort tugs in operating condition at this time.

• A tug-barge unit involves a tug that is able to push barges in moderate seaways, but must withdraw from the barge's stern notch and tow the barge when sea conditions make pushing impossible due to motion between the tug and barge. All other barges are loose-linked.

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TECO Transport's barges are among the largest, fastest and most reliable units due to their interconnection fixtures and tug-barge connections. From public statements in reports as well as industry knowledge, TECO Transport's ITBs and ATBs have successfully operated through the Americas and to points in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, the Far East and the former Soviet Union. Furthermore, Dr. Hochstein is simply incorrect in his

for reliance Maritime Administration data the on identification of ITBs and ATBs because the data is For example, one incomplete and inaccurate. comprised of a former east coast coastal tug and a former New York City sludge barge, has been engaged in multiple Pakistan from the US Gulf preference voyages to transporting cooking oil during the past two years.

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Q. Dr. Hochstein believes that the premium for preference trades is not appropriate because the TECO Transport barges presently serving Tampa Electric have limited alternative employment opportunities. Do you agree?

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barges face some limitations but the TECO A. No. All Transport barges are among the most competitive in the US-flag fleet and therefore, they can demand high rates in the preference trades. They are large, very wellmaintained and extensively re-fitted to provide low cost transportation for their owner and customers. These barges are most competitive in several trades: fertilizer and phosphates from Tampa to the Mississippi River, petcoke from the US Gulf to various plants, fertilizer and grain from the US Gulf and Atlantic coasts to San Juan, Puerto Rico and scrap metal to North If necessary, they can also compete in the Carolina.

coastal cement trade, which is served today by smaller barges that are not ideally suited for the long voyages from the Hudson River to the Southeast. As shown in my report, the TECO Transport fleet was highly utilized based on 2001 demand data. In fact, the demand increased in trades other than Tampa in 2002. It is also important to note that TECO Transport's tugs and barges extremely valuable for their potential to be converted into coastal petroleum products barges or coastwise container barges. TECO Transport's large and powerful in these power ranges. TECO tugs are quite rare Transport's large barges have double bottoms already and can be converted for these purposes. Finally, these tugbarge units can compete in the preference trades, which represent millions of tons of additional trade.

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MR. MAJOROS' PREFERENCE TRADES ADJUSTMENT

Q. Mr. Majoros made an adjustment to eliminate what he refers to as the "preference trade premium" incorporated in your model. Do you agree with this adjustment?

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A. No, I do not. What Mr. Majoros characterizes as a premium is actually an economically sound consideration of the opportunity costs of the vessels serving Tampa Electric rather than participating in other earnings

opportunities available to them. The preference rates are very representative of the rates prevailing in the US-flag-Jones Act marketplace. Barges move between the two trades and would not bid if earnings were very different from the rates that could be earned in the size of vessel. TECO coastwise trade, based on Transport's alternative opportunities include Jones Act and preference trades. Preference time charter rates tend to be higher because the ships are larger than the small and less efficient barges that exist in the Jones Act fleet.

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Q. What is Mr. Majoros' basis for not agreeing with this aspect of your model?

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A. Mr. Majoros provides no basis other than saying, in his opinion, such a premium would not be used in the model of a competitive market. He apparently does not subscribe to the very real opportunities that TECO Transport has in the marketplace, and that these opportunity costs have to be considered in arriving at a market price.

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Dr. Hochstein's Alternate Market Rate Methodology

Q. Is Dr. Hochstein's methodology for establishing a market rate based on replacement costs appropriate?

No. appears that Dr. Hochstein misunderstood methodology I employed because I did not use replacement cost as he states. As Ι stated earlier, Ι used depreciated replacement cost, which recognizes the age and reduced remaining service life of each vessel. My methodology resulted in substantial reductions in thereby yielding valuations, lower rates. Dr. Hochstein's methodology is also erroneous because he did not establish replacement cost for any of the tug-barge units in TECO Transport's service. He used the Corps' "Planning Guide" information as a source for replacement costs for the 35,000 dead tonnage weight ("dwt") bulk ship in his hypothetical example. This information is used by planners and engineers within the Corps for general guidance when considering the cost-benefit analysis of federal infrastructure investments channels and waterways. While it is drawn from various sources, it is generally processed by individuals with little or no exposure to commercial shipping economics. Consequently, the information is not widely used or accepted, certainly not by actual vessel operators.

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Additionally, the Corps' annual capital costs are incorrect for a commercial enterprise because the costs assume 100 percent debt financing, which is not available

to commercial ships and the cost is not replacement cost because it is based on a seven year old built ship. Furthermore, depreciation and tax shield effects are not considered.

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The problem with Dr. Hochstein's analysis is the cursory manner in which he relied on limited, inapplicable statistics, applied them in error and then presumed that he could cast aside market conditions, bid proposals and actual costs for port time, cleaning, additional transit, Не also assumes and other expenses. costs competition exists from vessels he admits cannot apply market pressure and he erroneously evaluates a single then puts forward a simple hypothetical ship and conclusion that has no basis in reality.

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Q. On page 54 of his testimony, Dr. Hochstein presents a sample of time charter equivalent rates of TECO Transport's barges and ships, compared with those based on Corps data. Is this an appropriate comparison?

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A. No, it is not. The time charter equivalent rates are based upon a hypothetical 35,000 dwt ship that is non-existent and therefore, meaningless in such an analysis. Furthermore, a single ship, even if it existed and was

available, could not move a substantial portion of Tampa Electric's coal.

Q. Is Dr. Hochstein's calculation of TECO Transport's freight rates based on its barges' earnings in the preference trade correct or appropriate?

- A. No. Dr. Hochstein's analysis is based on a hypothetical ship, his analysis is severely flawed and as I state above, his use of the Corps replacement costs is inappropriate. Even if I accept his hypothetical example, which clearly I do not, I note the following regarding Dr. Hochstein's analysis and provide Exhibit No. ____ (BD-2), Document No. 1 which corrects his incorrect assumptions and omissions and graphically demonstrates the corrected results:
 - Assuming commercial terms instead of federal financing terms, the \$65.1 million cost for the same ship cited in the Corps fiscal year ("FY") 2000 "Planning Guidance" and an assumed residual value, the ship would require \$24,000 per day as compared with Dr. Hochstein's \$13,343. Using Dr. Hochstein's 6.02-day voyage, this difference adds \$ 1.82 per short ton to his rate.
 - Using operating costs from the MarAd which is based on

actual filings by carriers, the bulk ship costs returns adjusted to 2003 for a 35,000 dwt ship is \$16,400 per day compared with the \$13,900 per day used by Dr. Hochstein. This difference adds \$0.43 per short ton to his rate.

- Inclusion of the port costs for tugs, pilots, line-handlers, etc. which Dr. Hochstein omitted. Assuming a modest \$10,000, this adds \$0.29 per short ton to his rate.
- Dr. Hochstein assumes that his ship will burn heavy fuel oil. In fact, as an ITB, the vessel will burn a very light IFO or diesel fuel. Assuming diesel fuel, the fuel cost increases by \$7,161 which adds \$0.20 per short ton to his rate.
- The actual cost of a new US-flag ship would be even higher than the Corps' \$52.3 million in FY 2002 or \$65.1 million in FY 2000. Based on Title XI costs for the real capital costs of a self-unloading bulk ship would be in the range of \$140 million. A non-self-unloading ship could be less, even at \$100 million this would indicate a daily capital cost of \$36,900, which adds an additional \$2.22 per short ton to Dr. Hochstein's rate.

Therefore, when fairly adjusted, Dr. Hochstein's \$5.12

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per ton for a new vessel is more realistically \$10.05 per ton. This is substantially above the \$8.01 per ton rate that I recommended. By any standard, Mr. Hochstein's calculation is deficient and contains numerous errors. In any event, the methodology is based on a hypothetical example with an inappropriate application of data. His freight rate calculation deviates from reality to pure hypothesis and must be rejected entirely.

Q. Is Dr. Hochstein's calculation of TECO Transport's freight rates based on foreign competition correct or appropriate?

his analysis of foreign costs is replete with errors, such as short ton conversions and the exclusion of port costs. It completely ignores the fact that at the time of the bid, foreign-flag time charter rates for the 35,000, 50,000 and 60,000 dwt were nowhere close to the \$10,062, \$11,029, and \$11,673 rates that he presumed. They were much higher.

Shipping rates had been on a strong upward trend since August 2002 continuing through mid-2003 when the bids were prepared. Handymax and Panamax spot rates had more

\$15,000 than doubled to \$14,000 and per respectively. Long term charter rates were soaring. Ву year-end these rates had more than doubled again towards \$25,000 and \$35,000 per day. At present they are even As of March 2004, the Fearnley Research Monthly report (Norway) listed one-year time charter rates at \$27,200, \$32,800 and \$44,100 per day for Handy, Handymax and small older Panamaxes, respectively. Each of these rates is two to three times the rates used in Dr. Hochstein's model.

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Dr. Hochstein's analysis also fails to adjust for draft limitations that exist at present and will for years into the future. The transportation arrangements needed to be available starting January 1, 2004, not at some future date years in the future, pending Corps approval. Furthermore, given the possibility of declining coal volume, the costs of improvement would be much higher than those assumed by Dr. Hochstein.

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MR. MAJOROS' TERMINAL ADJUSTMENT

Q. Mr. Majoros reduced the transportation rate in the new contract to reflect the price for terminal services in the old contract. Was this adjustment proper?

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A. No, Mr. Majoros' incorrectly interpreted the "meet or beat" provision by recommending an adjustment to the contract rate to reflect the terminal segment in the old contract instead of the rate I recommended. The rate I recommended was based on a bona fide market bid by International Marine Terminal ("IMT"). IMT's bid stands as a valid indication of the market price for terminal services and was appropriately relied on in my analysis.

Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

A. Yes, it does.

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EXHIBIT NO._______

TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 031033-EI

(BD-2)

FILED: MAY 3, 2004

DOCUMENT NO. 1

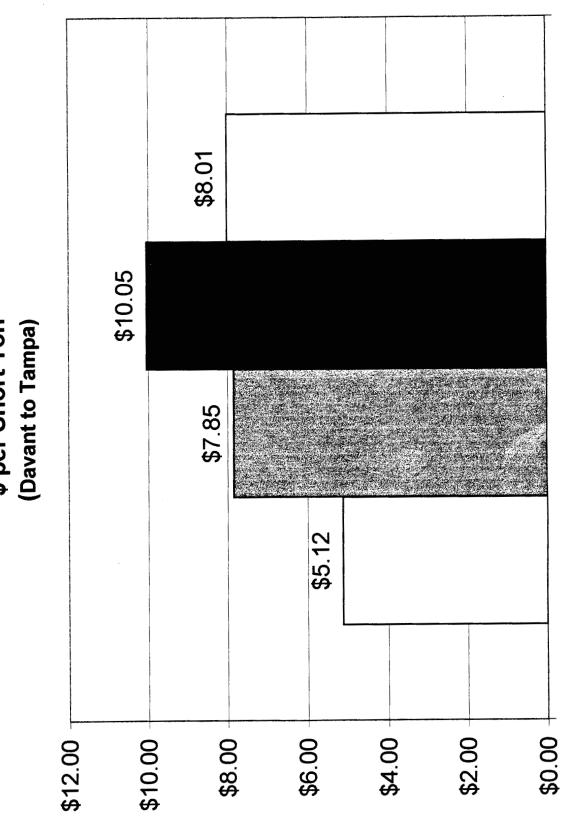
EXHIBIT TO THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

BRENT DIBNER

DOCUMENT NO. 1

"COMPARISON OF HOCHSTEIN AND ADJUSTED HOCHSTEIN"



Source: Dibner Maritime Associates

□Original AH

AH Corrected at \$65mm ■ AH Corrected at \$100mm □ Dibner Proposed Rate

COMPARISON OF HOCHSTEIN AND CORRECTED MODEL

•		AH Revised	AH Revised
	Hochstein AH-5	(\$65mm)	(\$100mm)
DWT Metric Tons	35,000	(40011111)	(4100)
LOA	608	608	608
	90	90	90
Beam		35	
Draft	35		35
Speed	14	14	14
Cargo DWT Short Tons	35,000	35,000	35,000
Draft on arrival	not specified	34	34
Replacement cost	\$52,250,153	\$65,089,621	\$100,000,000
Days in Service	343	343	343
Daily Costs \$/Day			
Daily Capital	\$13,343	\$24,000	\$36,800
Operating Daily	\$13,990	\$16,362	\$16,362
Capital & Operating (Time Charter)	\$27,333	\$40,362	\$53,162
Fuel at Sea Tons/Day	32	32	32
Fuel at Port Tons/Day	2	2	2
Cost Fuel at Sea	\$13,31 8	\$20,7 49	\$20,7 4 9
Cost Fuel at Port	\$1,290	\$1,290	\$1,290
	41,255	\$1,200	Ψ1,230
Voyage Time Round Trip (days) Service Speed, knots	14	14	4.4
Service Speed 90%, knots	12.60	14 12.60	14
•			12.60
Days at Sea	3.02	3.02	3.02
Days at Port/Slack	3.00	3.00	3.00
Total Days	6.02	6.02	6.02
Voyage Cost Round Trip	***		
Fuel at Sea	\$13,318	\$20,749	\$20,749
Fuel at Port	\$1,290	\$1,290	\$1,290
Port Costs		\$10,000	\$10,000
Capital	\$80,270	\$144,381	\$221,384
Operating	\$84,162_	\$98,433	\$98,432
Total	\$179,040	\$274,853	\$351,855
Freight Cost/ \$/Ton			
Fuel at Sea	\$0.38	\$0.59	\$0.59
Fuel at Port	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04
Port Costs	\$0.00	\$0.29	\$0.29
Capital	\$2.29	\$4.13	\$6.33
Operating	\$2.40	\$2.81	\$2.81
Total per Short Ton	\$5.12	\$7.85	\$10.05
AH Values	5.12		
Fuel Per Ton			
Diesel	212	212	212
IFO	135	135	135
Adder	3	3	133
Diesel/gallon with delivery	\$0.71	\$0.71	\$0.71
Interest Cost	6.13%	8.00%	8.00%
Pct Equity	-	0.333	0.333
Loan Term	20	10	10
Residual Value	-	5,000,000	5,000,000
Tax Effects	none	yes as shield	yes as shield
Lav Fliaces	HOHA	Aes as sulain	yes as silleld

SOURCE: DIBNER MARITIME ASSOCIATES

EXHIBIT NO.

TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 031033-EI
(BD-2)
FILED: MAY 3, 2004
DOCUMENT NO. 1
PAGE 2 OF 2