

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for approval of ) DOCKET NO. 920236-EG  
proposed implementation of HVAC ) ORDER NO. PSC-92-0564-FOF-EG  
Duct and Infiltration and ) ISSUED: 06/24/92  
HVAC Tune-up Programs as pilot )  
study programs under approved )  
Energy Conservation Plan by )  
GULF POWER COMPANY )

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK  
J. TERRY DEASON  
BETTY EASLEY  
LUIS J. LAUREDO

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION  
ORDER APPROVING PILOT CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are adversely affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Gulf Power Company's (Gulf) Conservation Plan on October 2, 1990 was approved in Order No. 23561. Included among the 11 programs approved in this plan were the HVAC Duct and Infiltration (Blower Door) Program and the HVAC Tune-Up Program which are the subject of this docket. At the time Order No. 23561 was issued, the two HVAC programs were in the developmental stage and were not ready for implementation. Now that development of the two programs has been completed, Gulf has asked for approval to implement each program on a pilot study basis for one year beginning with the 1992 Summer Cooling season. Gulf has also asked for approval to recover the company costs for the pilot programs through the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause.

The HVAC Blower Door Program identifies duct and infiltration leakage which might be occurring in a home. Diagnostic testing will identify total house infiltration rates and air duct leakage, which can then be repaired by sealing the supply and return ducts of central HVAC systems. After repairs are completed, another blower door test is performed. Comparison of pre- and post-repair data will determine the reduction of demand and energy for the customer and, as a result, give the expected dollar savings.

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The HVAC Tune-Up Program will provide a one-time cleaning and preventive maintenance check on HVAC systems. Pre- and post-repair testing will be done to verify the adequacy of preventive service on the reduction of kW demand and kWh energy usage.

A test group of customers, identified through Gulf's residential energy audits, will participate in the two pilot programs. For the HVAC Blower Door Program, 100 customers were identified; for the HVAC Tune-Up Program, 200 customers will participate. Customers will not incur any cost to participate in either program, as Gulf will bear all the costs associated with both pilot programs (\$200 for Blower Door Program, \$150 for HVAC Tune-Up). Each pilot program is expected to last for one year.

In Order No. 23561, we stated that conservation programs will be judged by the following criteria:

- o whether the program advances the policy objectives set forth in Rule 25-17.001, F.A.C. and the FEECA statute;
- o whether the program is directly monitorable and yields measurable results; and
- o whether the program is cost-effective.

Gulf's HVAC Blower Door pilot program appears to meet the first two criteria stated above. However, projections show that this pilot program is not cost-effective using the rate impact test because its benefit/cost ratio (0.95) is less than 1.0. However, the benefit/cost data is projected, and Gulf will have actual cost data only after completion of the program's pilot study period.

Gulf's HVAC Tune-Up pilot program appears to meet all three objectives. Moreover, it should be noted that both pilot programs are quite similar to existing Commission-approved programs offered by Florida Power Corporation as part of its Conservation Plan.

In order for a customer to be eligible to participate in either pilot program, the following criteria must be met:

- o Residence must be a residential, single-family detached home.
- o Customer must be receiving electric service from Gulf Power Company.
- o Customer must have had an energy audit performed by Gulf. From the audit, Gulf will identify eligible

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customers and offer them the opportunity to participate in the program.

An additional criterion which must be met in order to participate in the HVAC Blower Door Program is that the customer's house must have an easily accessible duct system and be in good enough condition for the duct test to be performed.

We find that the HVAC Tune-Up Program meets all criteria established by the Commission in Order No. 23561 and should therefore, be approved. Despite the fact that the HVAC Blower Door Program does not pass the rate impact test for cost-effectiveness we find that it should be approved. The benefit/cost ratio for this pilot program (0.95) is just less than the 1.0 ratio required for cost-effectiveness and the program otherwise appears to meet all other criteria. Actual data may prove this program to be cost-effective. Gulf shall file a report detailing the results of the two pilot programs within 90 days of completion of each program.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the Petition for approval of proposed implementation of HVAC Duct and Infiltration and HVAC Tune-up Programs as pilot study programs under approved Energy Conservation Plan filed by Gulf Power Company is hereby APPROVED. It is further

ORDERED that Gulf Power Company shall file a report detailing the results of the two pilot programs within 90 days of completion of each program. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall become final this docket shall be closed unless an appropriate petition for formal proceeding is received by the Division of Records and Reporting, 101 East Gaines Street,

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Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on the date indicated in the Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 24th day of June, 1992.

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STEVE TRIBBLE, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay Hays  
Chief, Bureau of Records

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at his office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on July 15, 1992.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this order becomes final and effective on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or sewer utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.