

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of
revised lighting tariffs by
Tampa Electric Company.

DOCKET NO. 030122-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-03-0417-TRF-EI
ISSUED: March 26, 2003

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

LILA A. JABER, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY
CHARLES M. DAVIDSON

ORDER APPROVING REVISED LIGHTING TARIFFS

BY THE COMMISSION:

On February 3, 2003, Tampa Electric Company (TECO) filed a Petition For Approval of Revised Lighting Tariffs. TECO seeks changes to its General Outdoor Lighting Service (OL-1), Premium Outdoor Lighting Service (OL-3), and Street Lighting (SL-2) lighting tariffs. We have jurisdiction under Section 366.06(1), Florida Statutes.

TECO seeks to change its OL-1 70-Watt HPS Nema, cobra, and coach post-top fixtures to new customers. TECO states that low to negative customer growth and customers desiring to switch to luminaires of 100 watts or greater are the reasons for closing the fixtures to new service. The total number of installed 70-Watt Nema/cobra fixtures declined from 13,584 in 2000 to 13,280 in 2002, and the total number of installed 70-Watt coach post-top fixtures declined from 3,501 in 2000 to 3,448 in 2002.

TECO also seeks to close its SL-2 70-Watt HPS cobra fixture to new customers for the same reasons stated above for OL-1 fixtures. The total number of installed fixtures has declined from 4,462 in 2000 to 4,454 in 2002. TECO stated that it anticipates a further reduction of at least 1,710 70-Watt HPS cobra fixtures over the next three to five years.

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In addition, TECO seeks to close its OL-1 100 Watt-HPS Nema fixture to new customers due to service issues associated with light trespass and vandalism. TECO states that it is beginning to see an increase in customer complaints due to light trespass, which TECO defines as an unintentional and annoying intrusion of light onto a neighboring property. TECO further states that the fixture's design prevents the installation of vandal and light trespass shields. TECO represents that it offers a comparably sized and priced cobra fixture that can be fitted with both vandal and light trespass shields.

TECO also proposes to close its OL-1 250-Watt HPS floodlight to new business for service quality reasons. The design of the dual-wattage fixture (which can be used for 250-Watt and 400-Watt HPS floodlights) includes a ballast that is too small, resulting in overheating and lighting outages. TECO states it has found a reliable replacement fixture for the 400-Watt floodlight, but not the 250-Watt floodlight. TECO states that those customers requesting the 250-Watt HPS floodlight can use a 250-Watt HPS shoebox fixture instead.

In addition, TECO seeks to close the OL-1 inaccessible pole (defined as a 30-foot wood pole installed in areas inaccessible to a bucket truck) and the 16-foot fiberglass post-top pole to new business. The inaccessible pole can be fitted only with the 70-Watt Nema or 250-Watt floodlight, both of which the company will be closing to new business. The 16-foot fiberglass post-top pole is available only with the 70-Watt coach post-top fixture, which TECO will be closing to new business.

Finally, TECO proposes to close the OL-3 175-Watt metal halide shoebox fixture to new business due to a lack of customer interest. Only 15 such fixtures were installed at year-end 2002, all of which were billed to a single customer.

For all of the above fixtures and poles TECO seeks to close to new customers, TECO will continue to relamp and service existing fixtures, to the extent that product is available for maintenance. When the fixtures themselves fail, TECO will require their replacement with another fixture type.

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We find that TECO has adequately justified the closure of its lighting fixtures and poles to new service as described above, and accordingly we approve the changes. The revised Tariff Sheets Nos. 6.260, 6.261, 6.270, 6.271, and 6.305 shall be effective March 18, 2003.

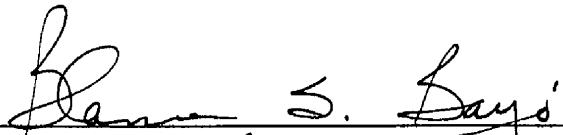
Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that TECO's revised lighting tariffs are approved and shall be effective on March 18, 2003. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 26th day of March, 2003.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), 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.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on April 16, 2003.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

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.