

One Energy Place  
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6000



December 3, 1997

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee FL 32399-0870

960835-EE

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification  
The Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc.  
Certificate of Notification - File No. 70-8233

Enclosed for filing in the matter referred to above is the Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification by Gulf Power Company. This request covers information for the period ending June 30, 1997.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me.

Please mark the enclosed extra copy of this letter with the date and time the material was accepted in your office for filing and return same to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda G. Malone".

Linda G. Malone  
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

lw

Enclosure

cc: Beggs and Lane  
Russell A. Badders, Esquire  
Gulf Power Company  
Susan D. Cranmer

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 12476-97. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12475 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company  
and Southern Communications Services, Inc.  
Certificate of Notification-  
File No. 70-8233 under Rule 24  
with the Securities and Exchange  
Commission (SEC) for the  
period ending June 30, 1997

Docket No.: Undocketed  
Date: December 4, 1997

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION**

The Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc., an associate company of Gulf Power Company, by and through its undersigned attorney and pursuant to Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, hereby gives notice that it intends to request confidential classification for certain information, hereafter the Certificate, submitted to the Florida Public Service Commission Staff pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 53(a)(4), C.F.R. §250.53(a)(4). A copy of the Certificate is attached hereto as exhibit "A". Rule 53 requires that every registered holding company submit certain specified categories of filings to each state commission in which the affiliates of the registered holding company operate. Gulf Power is an affiliate of the Southern Company, a registered holding company.

The Certificate contains proprietary and commercially sensitive information regarding the Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc. and certain of its unregulated, non-utility, businesses and investments which would cause irreparable harm to the Companies if disclosed to the general public. A formal request for confidential classification will be filed within the time period specified in Rule 25-22.006(3)(a), Florida Administrative Code, if at such time the Staff determines that the information will be retained by the Commission and not returned to the

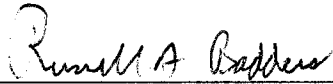
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12475 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Companies. This Certificate is the subject of a claim of confidentiality under the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully submitted,



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**JEFFREY A. STONE**

Florida Bar No. 325953

**RUSSELL A. BADDERS**

Florida Bar No. 007455

**Beggs & Lane**

P. O. Box 12950

(700 Blount Building)

Pensacola, FL 32576-2950

(850) 432-2451

**Attorneys for Gulf Power Company**