BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Review of Florida Power Corporation's earnings, including effects of proposed acquisition of Florida Power Corporation by Carolina Power & Light.) DOCKET NO. 000824-EI))
In re: Review of Florida Power & Light Company's proposed merger with Entergy Corporation, the formation of a Florida transmission company ("Florida transco"), and their effect on FPL's retail rates.) DOCKET NO. 001148-EI)))
In re: Review of Tampa Electric Company and impact of its participation in GridFlorida, a Florida Transmission Company, on TECO's retail ratepayers.	 DOCKET NO. 010577-EI Filed: October 12, 2001

PG&E NATIONAL ENERGY GROUP COMPANY'S POST HEARING BRIEF

PG&E National Energy Group Company ("NEG"), pursuant to Section IV of the

Prehearing Order issued in this proceeding and Rule 28-106.215, Florida Administrative Code,

hereby files this Post Hearing Brief of Issues and Positions, and Proposed Findings of Fact and

<u>Law</u>.

A. Statement of Basic Position.

The Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") should issue an Order finding the establishment of a regional transmission organization ("RTO") is prudent for Florida utilities that integrate the characteristics and perform the functions of an RTO as set forth in Order No. 2000. PG&E believes a Southeastern Regional Transmission Organization ("SERTO") is necessary to develop the wholesale market in the Southeastern U.S.

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Such an organization will provide the liquidity, risk management and cost-efficiency benefits necessary for competitive wholesale markets and reduced costs to consumers. An independent RTO, appropriately formed and operated, could successfully address impediments to an efficient, reliable electric transmission grid and could foster wholesale competition which should benefit Florida ratepayers in the form of lower electricity rates.

B. Statement of Issues and Positions

<u>Issue 2</u> :	What are the benefits to Peninsular Florida associated with the
	utilities (FPC, FPL, and TECO) participation in GridFlorida?
Post-hearing Position:	*** An RTO, if properly implemented, will provide greater
	system efficiencies from the existing supply infrastructure, access to
	a broader array of additional supply options, improve grid reliability
	via uniform interconnection procedures, and remove impediments
	to competitive supply entry. ***

Issue 3: What are the benefits to the utilities' ratepayers of its participation in GridFlorida?

Posthearing Position:***An RTO should benefit ratepayers by facilitating enhanced
grid reliability, more efficient power supply, and more reliability
than the existing local level of system control. Likewise, unified
transmission system operation and planning should lower
transmission costs through economies of scale and the elimination

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of duplicative practices. ***

<u>Issue 6</u> :	Is the utilities' decision to participate in GridFlorida prudent?
Post-hearing Position:	***Yes.***

Issue 7: What policy position should the Commission adopt regarding the formation of GridFlorida?

Post-hearing Position:***The Commission should adopt an RTO policy that
recognizes the benefits of a competitive wholesale power market in
Florida and support an independent grid management structure that
ensures the development of competitive wholesale generation
markets to increase Florida's load access to generation supply and
to promote efficiency.***

 Is a Regional Transmission Organization for the Southeast region

 of the United States a better alternative for Florida than the

 GridFlorida RTO?

Post-hearing Position:***PG&E advocates and supports the development of aSERTO that contains many of the market design and marketstructure features contained in the original GridFlorida Model. ASERTO is necessary to develop the wholesale market in theSoutheast. Such an organization will provide the attendant

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liquidity, risk management, and cost-efficiency benefits necessary for competitive wholesale markets and reduced costs to consumers.***

C. Proposed Findings of Fact

The facts adduced at hearing and in the prefiled testimony provide a competent substantial evidence in support of NEG's issues positions stated above.

D. Proposed Conclusions of Law

The formation of a Southeastern Regional Transmission Organization ("SERTO") is prudent and reasonable for Florida's shareholders and energy ratepayers.

E. Conclusion:

PG&E advocates and supports the development of a SERTO that contains many of the market design and market structure features contained in the original GridFlorida Model and which were subsequently incorporated into the Collaborative Governance Model recommended to FERC by the Administrative Law Judge who presided over the recent mediation. A SERTO is necessary to develop the wholesale market in the Southeast. Such an organization will provide the attendant liquidity, risk management, and cost-efficiency benefits necessary for competitive wholesale markets and reduced costs to consumers. Among these benefits are: appropriate size and scale for regional transmission and market operations; addition of highly efficient, lower-cost generation to meet growing demand, optimal operation for all generation resources as a

result of fair and open transmission access and transparent market operations; removal of "seams" problems and costs associated with transfer of power between regions and sub-regions, and opportunity to increase needed transmission investment. NEG further supports the creation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee that will work with the SERTO to design and implement features of the market. The creation of an independent transmission-owning company should act as effective vehicle to stimulate necessary transmission investment and to provide for more efficient maintenance of the existing grid. NEG also supports the creation of an Independent Market Administrator ("IMA") that would be responsible for the operation of the grid and the real-time energy market. The IMA should become a permanent feature of the SERTO because of the concern that the ongoing operation of the transmission system and energy market by an ITC acting as the RTO can lead to conflicts. We agree with the proposed design of an independent Market Monitor and the use of locational marginal pricing and financial congestion hedges for congestion management in the SERTO. A SERTO will bring benefits to the region through increased competition and commercial opportunities for needed transmission expansion.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of October, 2001.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by U.S. Mail this ______ day of October 2001 to the following persons.

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