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COMMISSION
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February 5, 2002

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Director of Commission Clerk and
Administrative Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 000824-EI

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed are the written comments of David Kaufman of the Downtown Dunedin Merchants Association which were provided at the public hearing in Clearwater on January 23, 2002.

Please indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed duplicate of this letter and return it to our office.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Beck
Deputy Public Counsel

- AUS _____
- CAF _____
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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

DAVID KAUFMAN
Downtown Dunedin Meret. Assoc.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to talk with you today.

We want to express to you that we are in favor of a rate reduction in our electricity costs as we expected from the merger between Florida Power and Carolina Power and Light.

We feel these are warranted due to the reduction in costs due to the consolidation of corporate functions associated with this merger.

As Florida grows, additional generation capacity will be necessary to fuel this growth.

We are in favor of investing in the future to provide the vehicle for further reduction in electric costs.

We applaud the reliability of our electric source and we hope that you and Florida Power will agree to give our members rate relief and will agree to provide for the future of Florida businesses. *by investments in generating capacity*