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LAW OFFICES

Messer, Caparello & Self

A Professional Association

Post Office Box 1876 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1876 Internet: www.lawfla.com

September 26, 2003

BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

> Re: Florida Public Utilities Company; Docket No. 030003-GU

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company in this docket are the following documents:

- An original and 10 copies of Florida Public Utilities Company's Petition for Approval of Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Factor;
- 09262-032. An original and 10 copies of the Direct Testimony of Cheryl M. Martin;
- 09263-033. An original and 10 copies of the Direct Testimony of Marc L. Schneidermann; and
- 09264-03 3. An original and 10 copies of Schedules E-1, E-1/R, E-2, E-3, E-4, and E-5.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the enclosed extra copy of this letter.

Norman H. Horton, Jr.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

NHH/amb CTR **ECR Enclosures** GCL OPC

MMS SEC OTH

Ms Cheryl M. Martin Parties of Record

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Arcushed Norman H. Horton, Jr. 600

NHH/amb Enclosures

cc: Ms Cheryl M. Martin

Parties of Record

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Purchased Gas Adjustment Recovery) Docket No. 030003-GU Filed: September 26, 2003

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY'S PURCHASED GAS COST RECOVERY FACTOR

Florida Public Utilities Company ("the Company"), through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to the requirements of this docket, hereby petitions the Commission for approval of the Company's purchased gas cost recovery factors for the period January, 2004 through December, 2004. In support hereof, the Company states:

1) The Company is a natural gas utility company within the jurisdiction of this Commission. Its principal business address is:

401 South Dixie Highway West Palm Beach, FL 33401

2) The name and address of the person authorized to receive notices and communications with respect to this Petition are:

Norman H. Horton, Jr., Messer, Caparello & Self, P. A. Suite 701, First Florida Bank Building Post Office Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

- 3) Pursuant to the requirements of this Docket, the Company has prefiled the purchased gas cost recovery forms supplied by the Electric & Gas Department in a manner consistent with the Department's instructions.
- 4) As indicated in the prefiled forms, the Company experienced an overrecovery of \$479,733 for the period January, 2002 through December, 2002 and estimates an underrecovery of

\$292,342 for the period January, 2003 through December, 2003, for a total overrecovery of \$187,391. Based upon estimated sales of 40,905,230, it will be necessary to subtract 0.458 cents per therm to refund this overrecovery.

5) The Company has also projected its purchased gas costs for the period January, 2004 through December, 2004. As indicated in the accompanying schedules, the maximum purchased gas cost recovery factor is 91.812 cents per therm. This rate includes projected cost of gas purchased, prior period true-up, and revenue tax factors, and is based upon projected sales.

WHEREFORE, Florida Public Utilities Company petitions the Commission to approve the foregoing purchased gas cost recovery factors, to be applied to customer bills for the period January, 2004 through December, 2004, and to billings thereafter until other purchased gas cost recovery factors are approved by the Commission.

DATED this 26th day of September, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

MESSER, CAPARELLO & SELF, P. A. Post Office Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876
(850) 222-0720

NORMAN H. HORTON, JE, ESQ.

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

IHEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been served by hand delivery (*) and/or U. S. Mail this 26th day of September, 2003 upon the following:

Cochran Keating, Esq.*
Division of Legal Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Room 370
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Matthew R. Costa, Esq. Peoples Gas System P.O. Box 111 Tampa, FL 33601-0111

Mr. Thomas A. Geoffroy Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation P. O. Box 960 Winter Haven, FL 33882-0960

Ms. Angela Llewellyn Peoples Gas System P.O. Box 2562 Tampa, FL 33601-2562

Ms. Gloria L. Lopez City Gas Company of Florida 955 East 25th Street Hialeah, FL 33013-3498

Richard D. Melson, Esq. Gary Perko, Esq. Hopping Green Sams & Smith, P.A. P.O. Box 6526 Tallahassee, FL 32314

Mr. Brian J. Powers Indiantown Gas Company P. O. Box 8 Indiantown, FL 34956-0008

Mr. Stuart L. Shoaf St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. P.O. Box 549 Port St. Joe, FL 32457-0549

Rob Vandiver, Esq.
Deputy Public Counsel
Office of the Public Counsel
111 West Madison St., Rm 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Lee L. Willis, Esq. James D. Beasley, Esq. Ausley & McMullen Post Office Box 391 Tallahassee, FL 32302

Armbel for NORMAN H. HORTON, JR.