

ORIGINAL

STATE OF FLORIDA

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DIVISION OF AUDITING & SAFETY
DANIEL M. HOPPE, DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6480

Public Service Commission

January 23, 2004

RECEIVED-FPSC
JAN 29 AM 11:00
COMMISSION
CLERK

Ms. Susan D. Ritenour, Assistant Secretary ,
Gulf Power Company
One Energy Place
Pensacola, FL 32520-0780

Re: **Docket No.:** 040001-EI; **Company Name:** Gulf Power Company; **Audit Purpose:**
To audit Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause and Generation
Performance Incentive Factor for the period from January 1, 2003 - December 31,
2003 ; **Audit Control No.:** 04-023-1-1

Dear Ms. Ritenour:

The Florida Public Service Commission will conduct an audit of the Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Clause and Generation Performance Incentive Factor for the period from January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003 , in accordance with Commission audit procedures. Access will be requested to documents and records of the utility and, if necessary, supporting records for affiliate company transactions that affect regulated operations. Staff auditors may also request to review the utility's external audit working papers for the most recent independent audit. Ms. Lynn Deamer, the Tallahassee district office supervisor, will coordinate this audit. Ms. Deamer can be reached at (850) 413-6416. Questions regarding the audit or audit staff should be directed to the district supervisor or myself. My phone number is (850) 413-6487.

The Audit Access to Records rule for each industry states:

In those instances where the utility disagrees with the auditor's assessment of a reasonable response time to the audit request, the utility shall first attempt to discuss the disagreement with the auditor and reach an acceptable revised date. If agreement cannot be reached, the utility shall discuss the issue with successive levels of supervisors at the Commission until an agreement is reached.

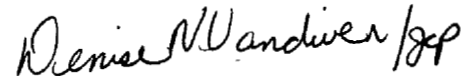
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Ms. Susan Ritenour
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A formal report is expected to be issued for internal Commission use on April 1, 2004. A copy of the final report will be mailed to the company liaison listed in the Commission Mailing Directory.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise N. Vandiver" followed by a stylized flourish.

Denise N. Vandiver, Chief
Bureau of Auditing

DNV/jcp

cc: Division of Auditing and Safety (Tallahassee District Supervisor, File Folder)
Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services (2)
General Counsel
Office of Public Counsel

Mr. Ronnie Labrato
Chief Financial Officer & Comptroller
Gulf Power Company
One Energy Place
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Beggs & Lane Law Firm
Jeffery Stone/Russell Badders
P. O. Box 12950
Pensacola, FL 32591-2950