

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Fuel and purchased power cost recovery
clause with generating performance incentive
factor.

DOCKET NO. 20250001-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-2025-0406-CFO-EI
ISSUED: October 28, 2025

ORDER GRANTING TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY'S
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION
AND TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER
(DOCUMENT NO. 14384-2025)

On October 8, 2025, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Tampa Electric Company (TECO) filed a Request for Confidential Classification and a Temporary Protective Order (Request) of certain highlighted information contained in the second supplemental response to the Office of Public Counsel's (OPC) First Request for Production of Documents, No. 1, related to a Bayside Unit 2 Root Cause Analysis (RCA).¹ (Document No. 14384-2025).

Request for Confidential Classification

TECO contends that the information contained in its response to OPC's First Request for Production of Documents, No. 1, contains information of a confidential nature, which is proprietary confidential business information within the meaning of Section 366.093(3), F.S.

This information is intended to be and is treated by TECO as private, and its confidentiality has been maintained. TECO contends that information related to full forced (FFO) and/or partial forced outages (PFO) equal to or greater than 75 hours occurring during the months of August, September, October, November, and December 2024, and January 2025, is included in this information. Specifically, the confidential document is an RCA for the Big Bend Combustion Turbine (CT) 5 forced outage that occurred from October 29, 2024, through November 11, 2024. TECO asserts that this information is protected by Sections 366.093(3)(a) through (f), F.S.

Ruling

Section 366.093(1), F.S., provides that records that the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) has found to contain proprietary business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from Chapter 119, F.S. Section 366.093(3), F.S., defines proprietary confidential business information as information that is intended to be and is treated by the company as private, in that disclosure of the information would cause harm to the company's ratepayers or business operations, and has not been voluntarily disclosed to the

¹ A root cause analysis is a process for finding the underlying, systemic causes of utility service problems to implement long-term, effective solutions.

public. Section 366.093(3), F.S., provides that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to:

- e) Information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information.

Upon review, it appears the above-referenced information satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), F.S., for classification as proprietary confidential business information. The information described above and in TECO's Request appears to contain information concerning an RCA for the Big Bend CT 5 forced outage that occurred from October 29, 2024, through November 11, 2024. Although TECO contends that the RCA may be interpreted in multiple categories as proprietary business information, it appears best described as "information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information." Thus, the information identified in Document No. 14384-2025 shall be granted confidential classification.

Pursuant to Section 366.093(4), F.S., the information for which confidential classification is granted herein shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of up to 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. At the conclusion of the 18-month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., unless TECO or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

Motion for Temporary Protective Order

TECO also seeks protection of the documents as provided in Section 366.093, F.S., and Rule 25-22.006, F.A.C. Section 366.093(2), F.S., directs that all records produced pursuant to a discovery request for which proprietary confidential status is requested shall be treated by any party subject to the public records law as confidential and exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., the public records law. Rule 25-22.006(6), F.A.C., codifies the Commission's policy regarding the protection of confidential information from public disclosure during the discovery process in a manner that is not overly burdensome to both parties. Rule 25-22.006(6)(a), F.A.C., in pertinent part, states:

In any formal proceeding before the Commission, any utility or other person may request a protective order protecting proprietary confidential business information from discovery. Upon a showing by a utility or other person and a finding by the Commission that the material is entitled to protection, the Commission shall enter a protective order limiting discovery in the manner provided for in Rule 1.280, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

Ruling

Upon consideration of TECO's assertions of the confidential nature of the information contained in portions of the discovery responses, Document No. 14384-2025, TECO's Motion

for Temporary Protective Order is hereby granted. As a result, this information shall be protected from disclosure pursuant to Rule 25-22.006(6), F.A.C.

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED by Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo Smith, as Prehearing Officer, that Tampa Electric Company's Request for Confidential Classification of Document No. 14384-2025, is granted. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 14384-2025, for which confidential classification has been granted, shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of up to 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. At the conclusion of the 18-month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., unless Tampa Electric Company or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information. It is further

ORDERED that Tampa Electric Company's Motion for Temporary Protective Order of the information in Document No. 14384-2025 is granted. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be the only notification by the Commission to the parties of the date of declassification of the materials discussed herein.

By ORDER of Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo Smith, as Prehearing Officer, this 28th day of October, 2025.



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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

RPS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.