

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Investigation into the ) DOCKET NO. 890779-EU  
adequacy of the electrical ) ORDER NO. PSC-93-1100-FOF-EU  
transmission grid in North ) ISSUED: July 28, 1993  
Florida. )  
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The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman  
THOMAS M. BEARD  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
JULIA L. JOHNSON  
LUIS J. LAUREDO

ORDER DENYING CLOSURE OF DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

BACKGROUND

Docket No. 890779-EU was established to investigate whether the existing and currently planned transmission grid in north Florida is sufficient to transfer generation and purchased power from north Florida to the load centers in central and south Florida. Pursuant to Order No. 23909, we ordered Florida Power Corporation (FPC) and Florida Power and Light (FPL) to provide us with status reports on the development of a 500 kV transmission line from the Southern Company to the Central Florida substation and from the Kathleen to Orange River substations. This line would increase Florida's import capability by approximately 1300 MW at a cost of approximately \$346 million. Order No. 23909 also kept this Docket open pending further action or the filing of a Petition for Need Determination.

On December 14, 1992, staff held a publicly noticed meeting at which FPC explained that it was delaying the projected in-service date of the 500 kV line from 1997 to the year 2002. FPC gave two primary reasons for the delay; reduced capacity needs and uncertainty of pricing options at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) level. FPL responded that they believed that the 500 kV line was still the most cost-effective measure for their company, but they would know more once their 1993 planning studies were finished in March of 1993.

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On April 8, 1993, staff held another publicly noticed meeting and FPL indicated that they could fill their need for additional transmission import capability by adding series capacitors to their existing 500 kV lines to increase import capability by approximately 500 MW. FPL stated that this matches their original share of the third 500 kV line and can be done at a cost that is approximately 25% less than the third 500 kV line.

On June 9, 1993, FPC indicated that a verbal agreement had been reached between FPC, Southern, and FPL to cancel the letters of intent for the 1997 project.

Since the utilities involved in the previously proposed project have agreed to postpone the project indefinitely, staff has recommended that this Docket be closed. We disagree.

In Order No. 23909, issued in this docket on December 20, 1990, we stated:

Based on the record in this case it is evident that both FPC and FPL are in the advance stages of planning transmission lines which would improve the state's import capability. We believe that FPC and FPL should continue to pursue the development of a 500 KV transmission line(s) from the Southern Company to Central Florida and from Kathleen to Orange River. In order to ensure progress toward this end, we require FPC and FPL to provide a status report on this project no later than March 1, 1991. This docket should remain open pending further action or the timely of filing a Petition for Transmission Line Siting and Certification of Need. (at p.9)

We have yet to receive information that would lead us to change our holding in Order No. 23909. We choose to keep this docket open pending further investigation into the effect postponement of the line would have on the adequacy of the grid in Florida.

It is therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commisison that this docket shall remain open.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 28th  
day of July, 1993.

  
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STEVE TRIBBLE, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )  
MAP:bmi

Commissioner Lauredo dissented on the ground that this docket should not be kept open when no action is pending or anticipated.

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), 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.

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 25-22.038(2), Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or (3) judicial

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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 Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, 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.