

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition to extend ) DOCKET NO. 961509-EG  
Commercial/Industrial ) ORDER NO. PSC-97-0264-FOF-EG  
Dehumidification Research ) ISSUED: March 11, 1997  
Project by Florida Power & Light )  
Company. )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
J. TERRY DEASON  
JOE GARCIA  
DIANE K. KIESLING

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION  
ORDER EXTENDING COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL  
DEHUMIDIFICATION RESEARCH PROJECT

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

**CASE BACKGROUND**

On May 24, 1993, we issued Order No. PSC-93-0782-FOF-EG in Docket No. 930166-EG approving Florida Power and Light Company's ("FPL") Commercial/Industrial Dehumidification Research Project ("Project"). FPL's expenditures for the Project were capped at \$750,000 over the three-year life of the Project. Further, we required FPL to file a comprehensive report detailing the results of the Project within 90 days of its completion.

We approved this Project in response to a change in the standard for the minimum acceptable ventilation rates for indoor or enclosed spaces. In June, 1989 the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) adopted Standard 62-1989, which increased the minimum outdoor air flow rate from 5 cubic feet per minute (cfm) per person to 20 cfm per person in new and substantially renovated commercial buildings. Subsequently, Standard 62-1989 was adopted to the Florida Mechanical Code. The purpose of FPL's Project is to assess the impact of Standard 62-1989 on Florida's air conditioning and

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dehumidification requirements and identify cost-effective energy-efficient alternatives that will minimize the demand and energy impacts of Standard 62-1989.

The primary components of FPL's Project include: (1) computer simulations to determine the impact of various air conditioning and dehumidification technologies on different building types; (2) surveys of existing HVAC systems; (3) field monitoring of several demonstration sites; and, (4) providing training and educational information to engineers, architects, and building owners to help them build, retrofit, and operate energy-efficient HVAC systems that comply with Standard 62-1989.

On December 20, 1996, FPL petitioned us to extend the Project through the fourth quarter of 1997. FPL has not requested to recover costs in excess of the approved \$750,000 through the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause.

#### DECISION

Originally, FPL expected to complete the Project by the end of 1996. FPL, however, experienced delays in the field monitoring of several of the project's demonstration sites. In particular, a delay was caused when two of the office buildings chosen as demonstration sites were vacated and renovated. FPL expects to begin end-use data collection on these two sites beginning in January and April, 1997. A further delay in field monitoring was caused by delays in the installation of equipment and contractor performance at a supermarket demonstration site. FPL expects these problems to be corrected by the end of January, 1997. If so, data collection will continue through the Summer of 1997 for the supermarket demonstration site.

According to FPL, as of December, 1996, total actual expenditures for the Project have been \$756,038. FPL estimates that an additional \$33,962 must be spent to complete the Project, for a total expected expenditure of \$790,000. FPL received \$40,000 in co-funding for the Project from the Florida Coordinating Group. Combined with the \$750,000 already allowed for recovery through the ECCR clause, FPL expects funding to be sufficient to cover total program costs of \$790,000. According to FPL's ECCR testimony to date, as of November, 1996, FPL has expended \$742,349 for the project. At this time, FPL expects that the costs recovered through the ECCR will not exceed \$750,000.

We approve FPL's request to extend the Project through the fourth quarter of 1997 because: (1) a substantial portion of the

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project is completed; (2) the reasons for the delay appear to be reasonable; and, (3) no additional costs beyond the already approved \$750,000 are being requested for recovery. The additional time will allow FPL to complete end-use data collection. FPL shall also file a comprehensive report with us detailing the results of the Project within 90 days of the Project's completion, which will be the first quarter of 1998.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Florida Power & Light Company's request to extend its Commercial/Industrial Dehumidification Research Project is approved. It is further

ORDERED that Florida Power & Light Company shall file a comprehensive report with the Commission detailing the results of the Commercial/Industrial Dehumidification Research Project's within 90 days of the Commercial/Industrial Dehumidification Research Project's completion, as discussed above. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 11th day of March, 1997.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay DeLeon  
Chief, Bureau of Records

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on April 1, 1997.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this order becomes final and effective on the date described above, any party substantially affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.