

1BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Environmental cost recovery clause.

DOCKET NO. 100007-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-10-0659-CFO-EI
ISSUED: November 1, 2010

ORDER GRANTING GULF POWER COMPANY'S
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION
(DOCUMENT NO. 07982-10)

On September 23, 2010, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Gulf Power Company (Gulf) filed a request for confidential classification of certain information provided in its responses to Staff's Second Request for Production of Documents (Nos. 5-8) and Staff's Seventh Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 45-48) (Responses) filed in this docket (Document No. 07982-10).

Request for Confidential Classification

Section 366.093(1), F.S., provides that "any records received by the Commission which are shown and found by the Commission to be proprietary confidential business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from Section 119.07(1) [the Public Records Act]." 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 public. Subparagraph (d) of Section 366.093(3), F.S., provides that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to "[i]nformation concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms." In addition, subparagraph (e) of Section 366.093(3), F.S., provides that "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of information" is proprietary confidential information.

Gulf contends that portions of the information contained in its Responses fall within these definitions and thus constitute proprietary confidential business information entitled to protection under Section 366.093, F.S., and Rule 25-22.006, F.A.C. Specifically, Gulf alleges that its Responses consist of detailed technical data and cost estimates associated with its Plant Smith Reclaimed Water Project. If this information is disclosed, it would impair Gulf's ability to contract competitively for goods and services and provide a competitive advantage to other industries considering deep well injection projects in the Bay County area. Gulf states that this information is intended to be, is treated by Gulf as private, and has not been publicly disclosed.

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

Ruling

Upon review, I find that the above-referenced information contains confidential information concerning bids and other contractual data, and information relating to competitive interests. This information satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), F.S., for classification as proprietary confidential business information and, thus, shall be treated as confidential. The information constitutes “[i]nformation concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms” and/or “[i]nformation 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. 07982-10, as more specifically described in Gulf’s Exhibit C attached, shall be granted confidential classification.

The information in Document No. 07982-10 for which confidential classification has been granted shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 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 Gulf or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner Nathan A. Skop, as Prehearing Officer, that Gulf Power Company’s request for confidentiality of its response to Staff’s Second Request for Production of Documents (Nos. 5-8) and Staff’s Seventh Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 45-48) is granted. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 07982-10 for which confidential classification has been granted shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 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 Gulf Power 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 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 Nathan A. Skop, as Prehearing Officer, this 1st day of
November, 2010.



NATHAN A. SKOP
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

(S E A L)

MCB

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.

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.

EXHIBIT "C"

Line-by-Line/Field-by-Field Justification
Line(s)/Field(s)

Response to Document Request Number Six.

Page 19, lines 1-4

Page 20, lines 1-4, Columns A-E and
Lines 5-10

Page 21, lines 1-5

Pages 22-23, confidential in their entirety.

Response to Interrogatory Number 46(d)

Page 1, lines 1-6

Justification

This information is entitled to confidential classification pursuant to §366.093(3)(e), Florida Statutes. The basis for this information being designated as confidential is more fully set forth in Paragraph 2.

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