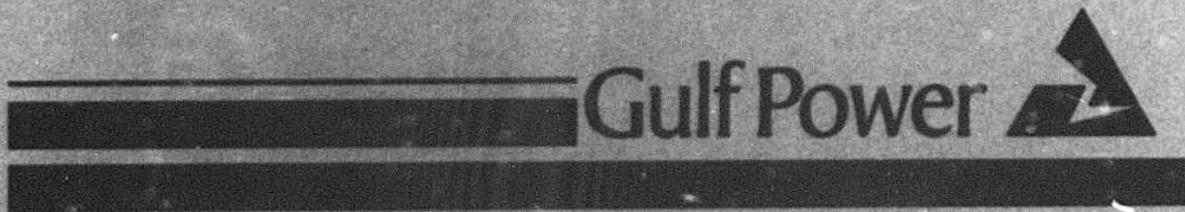


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**BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

DOCKET NO 891345-EI

**TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS
OF
A. E. SCARBROUGH**



DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
12000 DEC 15 1989
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

GULF POWER COMPANY

Before the Florida Public Service Commission
Direct Testimony of
Arlan E. Scarbrough
In Support of Rate Relief
Docket No. 891345-EI
Date of Filing December 15, 1989

Q. Please state your name, business address and occupation.

A. My name is Arlan E. Scarbrough. My business address is 500 Bayfront Parkway, Pensacola, Florida 32501. I am Vice President - Finance of Gulf Power Company.

Q. Please outline your educational background and business experience.

A. I graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1958 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. Following graduation from college, I attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps. While serving in the Marine Corps, I graduated from East Carolina University in 1962 with a Master's degree in Business Administration.

Following my discharge from active duty in 1962, I was employed by Mississippi Power Company (an operating subsidiary of The Southern Company, as is Gulf Power Company) in the Accounting Department and

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1 held various positions in the department until June
2 1968, when I was elected Assistant Secretary and
3 Assistant Treasurer of Mississippi Power Company. In
4 this position, my primary function was responsibility
5 for all accounting activities. I continued to serve
6 in that capacity until October 1976, when I was
7 elected Comptroller, with similar responsibilities.
8 In October 1977, I accepted the position of Vice
9 President and Comptroller and Chief Financial Officer
10 of Gulf Power Company, and in April 1980, was
11 appointed to the position of Vice President - Finance,
12 with similar responsibilities.

13
14 Q. What professional license do you hold in the field of
15 Accounting?

16 A. I am a licensed Certified Public Accountant and a
17 member of the American Institute of Certified Public
18 Accountants and Florida Institute of Certified Public
19 Accountants.

20
21 Q. Will you briefly describe your duties as Vice
22 President - Finance of Gulf Power Company?

23 A. I am the Chief Financial Officer with responsibility
24 for all accounting, financial, corporate records,
25 corporate planning, rates, and internal auditing and

1 security activities of the Company. I also serve as
2 Chairman of the Budget Committee.

3

4 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

5 A. The purpose of my testimony is to explain the need
6 for immediate rate relief and to discuss the rate
7 relief requested based on the 1990 test year approved
8 by this Commission. I will describe my role in the
9 budgeting process and the particular areas of the
10 budget that I am supporting in these proceedings. I
11 will discuss specific areas of the 1990 Operation and
12 Maintenance expense (O & M) budget and provide
13 justifications for variations from the benchmark in
14 those areas.

15

16 Q. Have you prepared an exhibit that contains
17 information to which you will refer in your
18 testimony?

19 A. Yes.

20 Counsel: We ask that Mr. Scarbrough's
21 Exhibit, comprised of 13 Schedules,
22 be marked for identification as
23 Exhibit ____ (AES-1).

24

25 Q. Are you the sponsor of certain Minimum Filing

1 Requirements (MFRs)?

2 A. Yes, these are listed on Schedule 13 at the end of my
3 exhibit. To the best of my knowledge, the
4 information in these MFRs is true and correct.

5

6 Q. Were all of the schedules in this exhibit prepared
7 under your direction and supervision?

8 A. Yes.

9

10 Q. What is the source of the figures shown in these
11 schedules?

12 A. The actual data presented on the schedules were
13 prepared from the books and records of the Company.
14 Gulf Power Company maintains its books and records in
15 accordance with generally accepted accounting
16 principles and the rules and regulations prescribed
17 for public utilities in the Uniform System
18 of Accounts published by the Federal Energy
19 Regulatory Commission (FERC), and adopted by the
20 Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC). Our books
21 and records are audited by Arthur Andersen & Co.,
22 independent public accountants, and a copy of their
23 latest audit opinion, for the year ending 1988, is
24 included in the Company's 1988 Annual Report to
25 Stockholders which is filed as MFR F-1 in this case.

1 Our books and records are also audited by the FERC
2 and this Commission. In addition to the schedules
3 presenting results of operations for 1989 (eight
4 months actual and four months projected), I will also
5 present certain budgeted data for 1990. Mr. D. P.
6 Gilbert, Director of Corporate Planning, will testify
7 about the budgeting process and methodology used in
8 making the projections; Mr. Mark R. Bell of
9 Arthur Andersen & Co. will testify to his review of
10 the budget; and Mr. R. J. McMillan, Supervisor of
11 Financial Planning will testify to the allocations to
12 the Unit Power Sales customers and the calculations
13 of the total retail revenue requirements.

14
15 Q. Why is it necessary for the Company to seek rate
16 relief at this time?

17 A. Gulf last received an increase in retail rates in
18 December 1984, five years ago. Gulf has made capital
19 expenditures of over \$385 million from January 1985
20 through August 1989 and is projected to make over
21 \$91 million of expenditures from September 1989
22 through December 1990. Thus the Company will have
23 expended more than \$476 million for plant facilities
24 necessary to serve our customers since our last rate
25 increase. Also, the Company has incurred significant

1 increases in operating and maintenance expenses,
2 primarily due to inflation and customer growth.
3 Offsetting the impact of these increased capital
4 expenditures and O & M expenses, to a significant
5 degree, were benefits derived from extensive cost
6 control efforts, increased Non-Territorial Sales
7 (Unit Power Sales), a declining cost of money, and a
8 decrease in the corporate federal income tax rate
9 from 46 percent to 34 percent. All of these changing
10 factors were concurrently reflected in the monthly
11 surveillance reports that are filed by Gulf with the
12 FPSC. These reports did not indicate a need for a
13 significant adjustment in Gulf's retail rates until
14 1989.

15 The major factor triggering the Company's
16 immediate need for rate relief is that all 515
17 megawatts of Gulf's portion of the Plant Daniel
18 capacity and 63 megawatts (mw) of Gulf's ownership in
19 the Plant Scherer capacity is now committed for
20 territorial service. As shown in Mr. Parson's
21 testimony and Schedule 9 of his exhibit, which I am
22 jointly sponsoring, up until February 1989, the vast
23 majority of this capacity was supported by our Unit
24 Power Sales (non-territorial service) contracts.
25 From June 30, 1988 to February 1, 1989, over 500 MW

1 of generating capacity was returned to territorial
2 service. The addition of this capacity, combined
3 with the normal increases in capital expenditures and
4 O & M expenses, created a significant 1989 retail
5 revenue deficiency. This was not a surprise to Gulf
6 Power Company. Since our last retail rate increase
7 in 1984, our long-range financial forecasts have
8 indicated a need for a substantial increase in retail
9 revenues in 1989. Nevertheless, our Company has
10 always placed great emphasis on attempting to find
11 ways to avoid filing for rate relief. Despite these
12 efforts, in order to maintain our high quality of
13 service to our customers and a reasonable level of
14 financial integrity, Gulf requested an increase in
15 retail rates of \$25.8 million on November 14, 1988.
16 Even though the Company's financial condition
17 continued to deteriorate as forecasted, Gulf withdrew
18 its request for rate relief on June 9, 1989, because
19 of the difficulties encountered in conducting a rate
20 case during a Grand Jury investigation. At that
21 time, the Company told the Commission we would file
22 another case when the situation was resolved. As
23 stated by Mr. McCrary, the investigation by the Grand
24 Jury as it relates to Gulf Power was resolved on
25 October 31, 1989. As anticipated, Gulf's earnings

1 have continued to deteriorate to a seriously
2 unreasonable level. Consequently, we are requesting
3 a \$26.3 million or a 6.21 percent increase in our
4 retail revenues.

5

6 Q. Have you made a comparison of Gulf's retail cost to
7 that of other companies?

8 A. Yes. I have compared Gulf's annual average retail
9 revenue per kilowatthour sold to those of 25 other
10 southeastern electric utilities for 1988. My
11 Schedule 11, page 1, shows Gulf in the lowest
12 quartile of this comparison group, with only three
13 companies that had lower costs than Gulf Power
14 Company.

15

16 Q. Would Gulf still have compared favorably if the
17 \$26.3 million rate relief requested in this case had
18 been granted to Gulf in 1988?

19 A. Yes. As shown on my Schedule 11, page 2, Gulf's
20 retail revenue per kilowatthour sold would have
21 remained in the lowest quartile of the comparison
22 group.

23

24 Q. Your projections indicate that in 1990 Gulf's
25 earnings, without rate relief, will be less than its

1 annual common stock dividend requirement. What are
2 the implications of this weak financial projection
3 for the Company and its customers?

4 A. Common stockholders provide a significant portion of
5 the capital needed to construct our generation,
6 transmission and distribution facilities. In
7 exchange, they expect, and they deserve, a fair
8 return on their investment, and a large part of this
9 return is in the form of dividends.

10 For an ongoing business, earnings are the
11 ultimate source of dividend payments. On a
12 short-term basis, the Company could meet its dividend
13 obligation with cash flow from depreciation and other
14 non-cash expenses, or from borrowings. But beyond
15 the short term, a growing company like Gulf Power
16 must earn at a level in excess of its dividend. It
17 is not likely that additional equity capital would be
18 available to a company earning only enough to cover
19 its current dividend. Failure to meet the dividend
20 obligation would adversely impact both the Company
21 and its customers.

22 The evidence is clear with respect to the
23 market's reaction to reduced or omitted dividends by
24 utility companies. The immediate decline in stock
25 price is only part of the overall reaction. The

1 greater concern is the impact on the Company's
2 ability to access the markets for additional common
3 equity capital in the future. The inability of the
4 Company to obtain additional equity capital on
5 reasonable terms could restrict growth or result in
6 increased leverage which would only exacerbate a
7 deteriorating financial situation.

8 Gulf, as you know, obtains its equity from the
9 Southern Company, but the above impact would be no
10 less direct because Gulf is responsible for its share
11 of Southern's dividend. Gulf's share is determined
12 based on the amount of its equity as a percent of the
13 total Southern system equity.

14

15 Q. Without rate relief, would your security ratings be
16 put in jeopardy?

17 A. Yes. In a recent report on Gulf Power, Schedule 12
18 of my exhibit, the Standard & Poor's rating agency
19 affirmed the single "A" rating of Gulf Power
20 Company's First Mortgage Bonds and preferred stock.
21 This report referenced Gulf's "aggressive" debt
22 leverage and its need for rate relief. The report
23 concluded with a "Negative outlook" that stated, "if
24 needed rate relief is not forthcoming, financial
25 protection measures could fall to levels below those

1 commensurate with the current rating."

2 Therefore, we conclude that without rate relief
3 our bond and preferred stock ratings would likely be
4 downgraded. This, of course, would increase our cost
5 of capital and possibly restrict, to some degree, our
6 access to the capital markets.

7

8 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, what are the projected earnings of
9 Gulf Power Company for 1990 with present retail
10 rates.

11 A. With present rates, the adjusted jurisdictional
12 return on average rate base is projected to be
13 6.60 percent for 1990. This provides a return on the
14 average common equity (risk capital) component of
15 7.52 percent, which is significantly below the 13.00
16 percent determined by Dr. Morin to be appropriate for
17 Gulf Power Company.

18

19 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, what areas of the financial budget
20 are you testifying to in these proceedings?

21 A. As Vice President - Finance and as Budget Committee
22 Chairman, I have overall responsibility for the
23 entire budgeting process. In these proceedings,
24 however, the budget areas I am supporting will be
25 confined to the Customer Accounts function and the

1 Administrative and General area of Operation and
2 Maintenance (O & M) expenses, and to taxes, interest
3 rate assumptions, dividends, capital contributions
4 from The Southern Company and other financings.

5
6 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, earlier you made reference to
7 resolution of the Grand Jury investigation. I
8 believe at least some of what occurred was as a
9 result of the circumvention of internal controls by
10 those involved. Have you made any changes to your
11 Management Procedures that provide additional
12 guidelines for internal controls?

13 A. Yes. Several accounting and purchasing Management
14 Procedures have been revised. Because of the
15 increased amount of transactions and the problems
16 which were focused during the investigation primarily
17 on the use of professional services throughout the
18 Company, we decided to include them in the purchase
19 requisition process to provide additional assurance
20 that the Company was getting the best possible
21 services for the best price.

22 In addition, other revisions included changes
23 to approval levels for purchase requisitions,
24 personal expense statements, and executive controlled
25 expenses. Blanket purchase orders were capped for

1 total annual spending limits.

2

3 Q. Will the tightening of the internal controls
4 guarantee that the circumvention of controls will not
5 occur in the future?

6 A. To my knowledge, no cost effective system of internal
7 controls exists which can detect every instance of
8 theft or fraud where collusion exists. I firmly
9 believe that we have carefully reviewed our controls
10 and made those changes reasonable to deter the
11 reoccurrence of this type activity. The best
12 internal controls are honest and ethical employees
13 who recognize the importance of adherence to these
14 controls. As indicated in Mr. McCrary's testimony, a
15 number of other steps have been taken to emphasize
16 the importance of such conduct.

17

18 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, has the Company made those
19 adjustments necessary to remove from this rate case
20 any impact of the losses associated with the Grand
21 Jury and internal investigations.

22 A. Yes, we have. On specific instruction from me, the
23 auditing and accounting personnel have attempted to
24 identify those dollars associated with theft or
25 otherwise involving the circumvention of controls.

1 Virtually all of these items relate to years prior to
2 1989 and do not impact the test year. A relatively
3 small amount was capitalized and would, therefore, be
4 included in the test year had they not been removed
5 from rate base as detailed in Mr. McMillan's
6 testimony. In addition, \$615,000 budgeted for legal
7 fees in connection with the investigation was removed
8 from O & M expenses in this case.

9
10 Q. Would you please explain your involvement in the
11 O & M expense budget process?

12 A. As Budget Committee Chairman, I administer the budget
13 process and participate in the review and approval of
14 the O & M budget.

15
16 Q. What is the most appropriate comparison which can be
17 made to determine the reasonableness of the 1990
18 O & M expense budget?

19 A. Before I respond, let me first say that I am fully
20 aware of the Commission's directive to present a
21 "benchmark" comparison using the level of O & M
22 expenses approved in the last case. In Gulf's case,
23 the base amount is the level of O & M approved in our
24 last completed rate case, Docket No. 840086-EI, Order
25 No. 14030. We have done this and, I believe, have

1 fully justified the variances between the 1984 base
2 year and the 1990 test year.

3 However, you have asked me to address the most
4 appropriate method of measuring the reasonableness of
5 requested O & M expense levels. I feel very strongly
6 that the most appropriate and most realistic method
7 is to examine the reasonableness of the prior year
8 expenditures. One can then compare the amount
9 requested in the test year with the prior year.

10 In this case, the most appropriate test of the
11 reasonableness of the 1990 O & M budget is to examine
12 the reasonableness of 1989 O & M expenses and compare
13 them with 1990 and review the explanations for the
14 increase. In 1989, we have spent at the level
15 necessary to provide adequate and reliable electric
16 service to our customers. An examination of 1989
17 expenses and the comparison of 1989 to 1990 is the
18 best measure of the reasonableness of our 1990 O & M
19 budget.

20

21 Q. Have you made such a comparison?

22 A. Yes, I have. I will present the 1990 O & M expenses,
23 exclusive of fuel and purchased power, and summarize
24 the explanations for the changes in O & M expenses
25 from 1989 (8 months actual and 4 months projected) to

1 1990. Those explanations are provided on Schedule 1.

2 In addition, I am prepared to address the
3 specific explanations for the variances related to
4 Customer Accounting and Administrative and General
5 expenses which are also shown on Schedule 1, page 2.
6 Mr. Lee, Director of Power Generation, is responsible
7 for O & M expenses related to Production.

8 Mr. Howell, Manager of Transmission and System
9 Control, is responsible for O & M expenses related to
10 Transmission. Mr. Jordan, Director of Power
11 Delivery, is responsible for O & M expenses related
12 to Distribution. Mr. Bowers, Director of Marketing &
13 Load Management, is responsible for O & M expenses
14 related to Customer Service and Information and Sales.

15 In addition to the Schedule 1 analysis,
16 Schedule 2 compares 1989 O & M expenses, escalated by
17 inflation and customer growth (benchmark analysis) to
18 the 1990 budgeted O & M expenses. The 1990 budgeted
19 O & M expenses are \$126.9 million, which is
20 \$5.9 million or 4.4 percent less than the escalated
21 1989 expenses.

22
23 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, earlier you indicated that you would
24 present testimony relating to the benchmark
25 comparison used by the Commission to measure the

1 appropriateness of increases in O & M expenses. Do
2 you believe use of the benchmark is an appropriate
3 tool for testing the reasonableness of O & M
4 expenses?

5 A. As long as it is truly used as an analytical tool as
6 the Commission intended, use of the benchmark may be
7 appropriate.

8 If the benchmark procedure requires that those
9 expenses in excess of the benchmark undergo a more
10 rigid analysis and justification by the Company
11 before they are approved by the FPSC then I think the
12 technique is appropriate. However, the benchmark
13 methodology, as interpreted by some, assumes that
14 customer growth (except for production) and inflation
15 as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), will
16 adequately cover increases in O & M expenses from
17 whatever baseline year is used to the test year. We
18 know this is the exception rather than the rule. A
19 multitude of O & M increases in the utility industry
20 are totally unrelated to either customer growth or
21 inflation. These may take the form of new programs
22 or increases associated with conforming to newly
23 adopted laws or regulations. Moreover, the CPI is a
24 measure of increases in the cost of a multitude of
25 consumer items, only a few of which are directly

1 related to the utility industry. The increases in
2 utility related expenses may far exceed those
3 associated with general increases in consumer
4 products across the country.

5 The biggest fallacy which we see associated
6 with use of the benchmark is the growing tendency of
7 some to advocate its use as an absolute or, at the
8 very least, a strong presumption that if a utility is
9 over the benchmark, the overage should be
10 disallowed. Arbitrary application and the absence of
11 any clear guidelines for determining what constitutes
12 a valid justification of an overage leaves the
13 utilities in this state justifiably apprehensive over
14 the use of the benchmark methodology. Finally,
15 unless the baseline year is representative of O & M
16 expenses required to be expended by the utility to
17 maintain a high quality level of service to its
18 customers, application of the benchmark methodology
19 will render results which are unfairly skewed.

20
21 Q. In Gulf's 1984 rate case, Order No. 14030, issued
22 January 25, 1985, the Commission approved 1984
23 adjusted O & M expenses (exclusive of fuel, purchased
24 power, and ECCR) totaling \$80.2 million. Was this
25 amount representative of a normal level of O & M

1 expense for 1984?

2 A. No. My testimony in the 1984 rate case indicated
3 that the level of O & M expenses included in the
4 original filing for that case was the level necessary
5 for the Company to continue normal operations. I
6 also stated that due to the poor return on average
7 common equity which would result if the expenditures
8 were made and inadequate rate relief was received,
9 the Company had deferred certain expenditures such as
10 turbine maintenance, travel, training, and the hiring
11 of new and replacement employees.

12 We were chastised for deferring expenses in
13 Order No. 14030, and as a result, the Commission
14 reduced the requested level of O & M expenses by
15 \$5.7 million. This reduction was determined by
16 annualizing the actual expenditures for 1984 through
17 July which were under the level budgeted and needed
18 for normal operations. The Commission also made
19 several adjustments related to the benchmark
20 justification which further reduced the allowed O & M
21 below the level needed for normal operations by
22 approximately \$3.7 million. The total reduction of
23 O & M expenses amounted to \$9.4 million.

24
25 Q. Have you prepared a comparison of 1990 O & M

1 expenses, exclusive of fuel, purchased power, and
2 ECCR, to a benchmark which uses the O & M allowed in
3 Order No. 14030 as the base year?

4 A. Yes. The comparison of 1990 O & M expenses to the
5 benchmark has been prepared and is included on
6 Schedule 3. The 1990 O & M budget is \$5.2 million
7 over the 1990 benchmark.

8 As I stated earlier, while the benchmark can be
9 a useful tool in performing an analysis of O & M
10 expenses, the selection of the base year has a
11 significant impact on the results obtained by using
12 the benchmark methodology. The use of a base year
13 that is well below the level of O & M expenses needed
14 for normal operations will result in the need to
15 provide extensive and additional justification for a
16 disproportionately large amount of expenditures when
17 analyzing a normal year.

18 As I have previously mentioned, the level of
19 O & M expenses allowed in Order No. 14030 was
20 \$9.4 million below the level required for normal
21 operations. The variance resulting from the
22 application of the benchmark methodology to the 1984
23 allowed O & M expenses is larger than would have
24 occurred had a normal level of O & M expenses been
25 used as the base. Gulf does not believe that the use

1 of the 1984 O & M expenses allowed in Order No. 14030
2 as the base is appropriate. Nevertheless, we have
3 calculated the benchmark in compliance with the
4 Commission's directive using the O & M expenses
5 approved in Order No. 14030, with proper adjustments
6 as I will discuss later in my testimony, as the base
7 and provided the necessary justifications.
8

9 Q. Would it be more appropriate to use a base other than
10 the O & M expenses allowed for the 1984 test year in
11 the calculation of the 1990 benchmark?

12 A. Yes. Commission Order No. 11498, issued on
13 January 11, 1983, allowed \$84.4 million for adjusted
14 O & M expenses (exclusive of fuel, purchased power
15 and ECCR), which is \$4.2 million higher than the
16 \$80.2 million of O & M expenses allowed for the 1984
17 test year. The use of the 1983 allowed O & M level
18 as a base results in a benchmark of \$130.4 million
19 which is \$3.5 million greater than the 1990 budgeted
20 O & M expenses as shown on Schedule 4. The effect of
21 the Commission's directive to use the 1984 allowed
22 O & M as the base has required the Company to provide
23 more detailed justification for a greater portion of
24 our 1990 O & M expenditures than would have been
25 necessary had a normal level of O & M been used as

1 the base year, such as the O & M allowed in our 1983
2 Rate Case, Order No. 11498.

3 In Order No. 14030, the Commission stated that:
4 Gulf's strategy of intentionally not spending
5 what it professes to need has only served to
6 complicate our examination of what its true
7 and legitimate needs are. It is not a
8 strategy that should be repeated or adopted
9 by others.

10 In each year since 1984 the Company has heeded
11 this Commission admonishment and Gulf has incurred
12 the level of O & M expenses necessary to operate at a
13 normal level. Applying the benchmark methodology to
14 any base year since 1984 yields a benchmark that is
15 greater than the budgeted O & M expenses for 1990.

16 Q. Was the application of the benchmark methodology in
17 Gulf's 1984 rate case properly calculated regarding
18 the jointly owned Plant Daniel generating facilities?

19 A. No. In Order No. 14030, the benchmark methodology
20 was improperly applied to make two significant
21 adjustments to the O & M expenses related to Gulf's
22 50 percent ownership in Plant Daniel, which is
23 jointly owned with and operated by Mississippi Power
24 Company (MPC) as Gulf's agent. These adjustments
25 were for transmission line rentals and Gulf's portion
of MPC's Administrative and General (A & G) expenses

1 which are incurred solely because of the jointly
2 owned Plant Daniel production facility. The
3 benchmark was calculated by applying the escalation
4 factors to the 1979 base year, which contained O & M
5 expenses for only Gulf owned and operated generating
6 facilities. This benchmark was compared to the 1984
7 budgeted O & M expenses which included O & M expenses
8 for Gulf operated facilities as well as O & M
9 expenses for the jointly owned production facilities
10 (Plant Daniel) which were operated by Gulf's agent,
11 MPC.

12 The methodology as applied gave no considera-
13 tion to the facts that (1) there were not any O & M
14 expenses related to jointly owned facilities in the
15 base year, (2) all O & M expenses for Plant Daniel
16 are production, and (3) all production O & M expenses
17 should be added to the benchmark when the plant is
18 placed in service. The Commission inappropriately
19 disallowed \$2.0 million of Plant Daniel Production
20 O & M expenses which Gulf is contractually obligated
21 to pay in order to receive its 50 percent share of
22 the electricity generated at Plant Daniel.

23
24 Q. You stated previously that the O & M expenses allowed
25 in Order No. 14030, issued January 25, 1985, were used

1 as the base for calculating the 1990 benchmark. Have
2 you made any adjustments to the allowed O & M in
3 calculating the 1990 Benchmark?

4 A. Yes. In Order No. 14030, the Commission disallowed
5 expenditures related to the transmission line rentals
6 and the Administrative and General (A & G) expenses
7 for Gulf's 50 percent ownership of Plant Daniel. We
8 have adjusted the 1990 benchmark calculation to
9 reflect the proper treatment of the costs for
10 transmission line rentals and Administrative and
11 General expenses incurred exclusively for Plant
12 Daniel Production facilities.

13
14 Q. Please describe the adjustment made in Order
15 No. 14030 related to Plant Daniel transmission line
16 rentals.

17 A. The Commission excluded \$425,000 of expenses for
18 rentals of transmission lines necessary to transmit
19 Gulf's 50 percent share of the Plant Daniel
20 generation from Mississippi to Gulf's service
21 territory. The disallowance was based on the
22 calculation of the benchmark in which Gulf escalated
23 1979 base year transmission expenses by customer
24 growth and inflation in accordance with benchmark
25 methodology. We then justified the variance between
the benchmark and the 1984 budgeted expenses by using

1 transmission line rentals which were not included in
2 the 1979 base. In 1984, this variance amounted to
3 \$1.4 million.

4 The Commission indicated that it was not proper
5 to escalate the base year by customer growth and
6 inflation and then ask for recovery of the line
7 rentals. The Commission stated that "...we find the
8 transmission line rentals to be comparable to new
9 generating plants in purpose and shall disallow that
10 portion of the requested expense that exceeds growth
11 for inflation alone." I agree that transmission line
12 rentals are comparable to new generating plants in
13 purpose and should be treated in a like manner. I
14 disagree with the Commission's position that Gulf's
15 1984 benchmark should have been reduced by customer
16 growth in order to attain the proper treatment. The
17 disallowance was calculated by determining the
18 customer growth component of the 1984 benchmark,
19 which amounted to \$425,000. Schedule 5 shows the
20 calculation of the Commission's adjustment of
21 \$425,000 related to transmission line rentals. The
22 transmission line rentals are required in order for
23 Gulf to receive the electricity generated by the new
24 Plant Daniel facility and should be allowed in the
25 same manner as the new capacity. The rentals should

1 be added to the calculated benchmark prior to the
2 determination of the benchmark variance.

3
4 Q. Please compare the treatment of transmission line
5 rentals in Order No. 14030 with the proper treatment.

6 A. Gulf's 1979 expenses in Account 567, Rents, included
7 \$6,000; hardly an amount representative of the annual
8 rental of a transmission line. The remaining
9 expenses in the transmission function were for the
10 normal operation and maintenance of Gulf owned
11 transmission facilities for a total of \$1,444,000.
12 Gulf escalated the total 1979 expenses by customer
13 growth and inflation and compared this amount to the
14 projected 1984 expenses. The variance was explained
15 primarily by \$1,381,000 of transmission line rentals.

16 The transmission expenses included in 1979
17 represent the operation and maintenance costs of only
18 Gulf owned transmission facilities. All depreciation
19 expenses associated with those facilities are
20 reflected in Account 403, Depreciation Expense, and
21 the carrying cost of the investment is included in
22 base rates through the rate of return calculation.
23 The use of customer growth and inflation to calculate
24 the benchmark is proper to cover the operation and
25 maintenance costs of any new Gulf owned transmission

1 facilities. However, rentals for transmission lines
2 not only reflect the operation and maintenance costs
3 of the rented facilities but also include deprecia-
4 tion and carrying costs of the owning utility. For
5 that reason, it is not proper to conclude that the
6 benchmark calculated only on the expenses associated
7 with Gulf owned transmission facilities would be
8 sufficient to cover the costs associated with the
9 rental of transmission lines from others.

10 Schedule 5 contains the calculation of the
11 Commission's adjustment which removed the customer
12 growth component from the 1984 benchmark related to
13 transmission. Also included on Schedule 5 is a 1984
14 benchmark calculation related to the transmission
15 function which reflects the proper treatment of
16 transmission line rentals. As shown, the proper
17 treatment of transmission line rentals in the 1984
18 benchmark would have resulted in Gulf's being only
19 \$111,000 over the benchmark.

20
21 Q. Please describe the treatment of transmission line
22 rentals in the calculation of the 1990 benchmark.

23 A. Schedule 6 contains a detailed calculation of the
24 1990 benchmark for transmission expenses. We have
25 treated transmission line rentals in the same manner

1 as we would treat a generating unit in calculating
2 the 1990 benchmark. The transmission expense allowed
3 in Order No. 14030 was divided between transmission
4 line rentals and other transmission expenses. Other
5 transmission expenses were escalated using customer
6 growth and inflation in keeping with the benchmark
7 methodology. In calculating the 1990 benchmark for
8 line rentals, we added the Commission's transmission
9 line rental adjustment of \$425,000 as shown on
10 Schedule 5, to the 1984 allowed amount for line
11 rentals to arrive at the proper base. This base was
12 then escalated by inflation only to calculate the
13 1990 benchmark for transmission line rentals. The
14 total transmission benchmark for 1990 amounts to
15 \$7.2 million. The 1990 budgeted transmission
16 expenses total \$7.3 million resulting in the
17 transmission function being over the benchmark by
18 \$143,000. Justification for this benchmark variance
19 is included in MPR C-57.

20

21 Q. How is the inclusion of Plant Daniel transmission
22 line rentals in Gulf's O & M expenses justified?

23 A. It is obvious that a means of transporting the power
24 from Plant Daniel in Mississippi to Gulf's service
25 area is required. Several options were evaluated to

1 determine which option would be the most economical
2 for Gulf to pursue. Rental of the transmission lines
3 from Mississippi Power Company and Alabama Power
4 Company was determined to be the most economical
5 option. The testimony of Mr. Howell addresses the
6 justification for renting the necessary transmission
7 lines rather than selecting the other available
8 alternatives.

9

10 Q. Please describe the adjustment made in Order
11 No. 14030 related to Plant Daniel Administrative and
12 General expenses.

13 A. The Commission excluded \$1,573,000 of the
14 Administrative and General expenses which are
15 incurred solely as a result of Gulf's 50 percent
16 ownership in Plant Daniel. The justification for the
17 reduction was:

18 ...we reject Gulf's attempted
19 justification for this amount in excess
20 of the CPI and customer growth
21 benchmark. We reject it, not because
22 we find the amount to be unreasonable
23 or imprudent, but because we find that
24 Gulf has already included this amount
25 in a previous justification. This is
so because we find that A & G for new
plant is accounted for in the base
O & M and to accept it as additional
justification would result in counting
this expense twice.

25 The A & G expenses for the new plant (Daniel) was

1 not accounted for in the base O & M.

2

3 Q. Do you agree with the adjustment made by the
4 Commission in Order No. 14030 relating to Plant
5 Daniel A & G expenses?

6 A. No. Here again, the Commission applied the
7 rationale that customer growth provides for
8 sufficient increases in the base year level of A & G
9 expenses to offset the increase in A & G expenses
10 occasioned by the increase in new generating plant.
11 This rationale is true for the addition of plant
12 owned and operated by Gulf, as the base year
13 includes A & G expenses of a similar nature.
14 However, in the case of Plant Daniel, Gulf entered
15 into a contract with MPC whereby MPC operates Plant
16 Daniel for the benefit of Gulf and MPC. Under this
17 contract Gulf is allocated a portion of MPC's A & G
18 expenses as well as 50 percent of the production
19 expenses of Plant Daniel.

20 The A & G expenses for our 50 percent ownership
21 of Plant Daniel are incurred by Gulf exclusively for
22 the operation of the plant by MPC. There were no
23 Plant Daniel A & G expenses included in the 1979
24 base year. It is inappropriate to assume that an
25 adjustment for customer growth when applied to a

1 base year which included only Gulf A & G expenses
2 would cover expenses for the A & G billed to Gulf by
3 MPC for Plant Daniel.

4
5 Q. Please describe the treatment of Plant Daniel A & G
6 in the calculation of the 1990 benchmark.

7 A. We have separated A & G expenses into
8 production-related A & G and other A & G.
9 Schedule 7 contains a detailed calculation of the
10 1990 benchmark for Administrative and General
11 expenses. The A & G expense allowed in Order
12 No. 14030 was allocated between production-related
13 A & G and other A & G. The production-related A & G
14 is composed of a portion of Gulf's pension and
15 benefit expenses and property insurance expenses as
16 well as the A & G costs billed to Gulf by
17 Mississippi Power for the operation of Plant
18 Daniel. Gulf's pension and benefit expenses were
19 allocated to production based upon production labor
20 to total O & M labor, and the property insurance
21 expenses were allocated based upon insurable
22 values. These components of A & G expense were
23 included as production-related A & G since the level
24 of these expenditures would fluctuate in direct
25 proportion to the addition of new Gulf operated

1 generating plant. Gulf's portion of Plant Daniel
2 A & G is also included as production-related A & G.

3 In calculating the 1990 benchmark for
4 production A & G, we have added the Commission's
5 adjustment for Plant Daniel A & G to the allowed
6 production-related A & G to arrive at the proper
7 base. This base was then escalated by inflation
8 only to calculate the 1990 benchmark for
9 production-related A & G. The 1990 benchmark for
10 other A & G expenses was calculated by applying the
11 customer growth and inflation factors to allowed
12 other A & G expenses. The 1990 benchmark for A & G
13 was calculated to be \$39.2 million. The 1990
14 budgeted A & G expenses, adjusted for the
15 appropriate Net Operating Income adjustments, total
16 \$38.4 million which is \$.8 million less than the
17 benchmark.

18
19 Q. Why did you add the 1984 Daniel A & G disallowance
20 to the Benchmark?

21 A. Gulf added the 1984 Daniel A & G expense
22 disallowance to the production-related A & G
23 benchmark for three reasons: (1) The Commission did
24 not rule that the Plant Daniel A & G expenses were
25 either unreasonable or imprudent; (2) the

1 Commission authorized the inclusion of Plant Daniel
2 in rate base and the recovery of the production
3 expenses in the last rate proceeding, and the
4 disallowed A & G expenses were exclusively for
5 production; and (3) these disallowed A & G expenses
6 are a specific component of the Plant Daniel
7 operating agreement between Gulf and Mississippi
8 Power Company.

9
10 Q. Please summarize the justification for recovering
11 the Plant Daniel A & G expenditures from Gulf's
12 customers.

13 A. Gulf has a contract with MPC which allocates to Gulf
14 a portion of MPC A & G expenses and 50 percent of
15 the Production expenses of Plant Daniel. The A & G
16 expenses for our 50 percent ownership of Plant
17 Daniel are solely for the operation of the plant by
18 MPC. The billings to Gulf by Mississippi are
19 audited by the Internal Auditors of Southern Company
20 Services on a periodic basis in order to determine
21 whether such billings are in compliance with the
22 terms of the operating agreement.

23 The approval by the FPSC of Plant Daniel
24 capacity in Gulf's rate base in the last rate case,
25 as well as the allowance of the production O & M

1 expenses, recognizes that Plant Daniel costs are
2 properly recoverable from Gulf's customers. Since
3 the A & G expenses are a necessary component of the
4 operating cost of Plant Daniel, they should also be
5 recoverable from Gulf's customers.

6
7 Q. How have you handled the O & M expenses associated
8 with the addition of Plant Scherer for benchmark
9 purposes?

10 A. In calculating the 1990 benchmark, we have treated
11 the O & M expenses for Plant Scherer the same as for
12 Plant Daniel. We have included the Production O & M
13 expenses, the A & G expenses for Plant Scherer
14 billed to Gulf by Georgia Power, and the
15 transmission line rentals billed to Gulf which are
16 necessary for Gulf to receive the electricity
17 generated by our 25 percent interest in Georgia
18 Power's Plant Scherer Unit No. 3. These are
19 expenses incurred by Gulf solely for the new
20 generating capacity at Plant Scherer Unit No. 3 and
21 as such should be included in the benchmark. This
22 treatment is consistent with the treatment specified
23 by the Commission in Order No. 14030 and given to
24 our 50 percent ownership in Plant Daniel which we
25 previously discussed.

1 Q. Have you made any other adjustments in calculating
2 the 1990 Benchmark?

3 A. Yes. We have made an adjustment related to certain
4 Customer Service and Information (CS&I) expenses
5 which were recovered through the Energy Conservation
6 Cost Recovery (ECCR) mechanism in 1984 but are
7 budgeted to be recovered through base rates in 1990.

8
9 Q. How were CS&I expenses handled in the 1984 case?

10 A. In 1984, Gulf budgeted \$5.4 million of CS&I expenses.
11 Our original rate filing with the FPSC in that case
12 indicated that \$2.1 million of conservation expenses
13 would be recovered through the ECCR mechanism and
14 the remainder of the conservation expenses would be
15 recovered through base rates. The Commission ruled
16 that all conservation expenditures should be
17 recovered through ECCR and, as directed, Gulf moved
18 \$1.6 million from base rates to ECCR. These
19 expenses were not disallowed. There was simply a
20 change in the mechanism through which these expenses
21 were to be recovered from our customers. Conse-
22 quently, the Commission in Order No. 14030 provided
23 for the recovery of \$1.5 million of CS&I expenses
24 through base rates and for the recovery of \$3.7
25 million of CS&I expenses through the ECCR clause.

1 Q. What has happened during the period 1984 through
2 1989 regarding the level of Customer Service and
3 Information (CS&I) expenditures being recovered
4 through ECCR?

5 A. Since 1984 Gulf has continued to budget for and
6 recover conservation expenses from our customers
7 through the ECCR mechanism. However, due to changes
8 in the conservation marketplace and FPSC rulings
9 that certain of Gulf's programs were more customer
10 service in nature, there has been a shift in the
11 recovery of CS&I expenses from ECCR back to base
12 rates. The Commission did not disapprove the
13 programs but rather determined that they were no
14 longer appropriately recovered through ECCR. Once
15 again, the result was a shift in the method by which
16 CS&I expenses should be recovered from our customers.

17
18 Q. Please describe the adjustment that you made in
19 calculating the CS&I benchmark.

20 A. As mentioned above, the FPSC has ruled that the
21 expenses associated with certain programs which were
22 designated to be recovered through the ECCR
23 mechanism in the 1984 rate case should no longer be
24 recovered through that mechanism in 1990. The
25 programs themselves were not disapproved. In order

1 to properly calculate the 1990 benchmark it was
2 necessary to reflect in the benchmark the change in
3 the method of recovery of the CS&I expenses of
4 certain programs. We identified the following
5 programs which were designated for recovery through
6 the ECCR clause in the 1984 rate case: (1) Gulf's
7 Good Cents - New; (2) Good Cents - Improved; (3)
8 Energy Education; and (4) Seminar programs and added
9 the 1984 budgeted amounts for these programs to the
10 CS&I expenses allowed to be recovered through base
11 rates in Gulf's 1984 rate case. The affect of this
12 adjustment is to determine a base year to be used to
13 calculate the 1990 benchmark for CS&I expenses that
14 is consistent with the recovery mechanisms being
15 used to recover those CS&I expenses. This adjusted
16 base level of CS&I expense was then escalated by
17 customer growth and inflation to calculate the 1990
18 CS&I benchmark.

19
20 Q. Why was this adjustment made?

21 A. This adjustment was made to eliminate the effect of
22 the method of recovery of CS&I expenditures on the
23 1990 benchmark. Mr. Bower's Exhibit No. 3 shows
24 that, in total, Gulf's CS&I expenses are under the
25 benchmark. However, without adjusting for the

1 recovery mechanism in the base year, the benchmark
2 methodology could artificially create benchmark
3 variances. Of course, the adjustment for the
4 recovery mechanism change does not eliminate Gulf's
5 need to justify the CS&I programs.

6 Mr. Bower's testimony provides justification
7 for the programs included in the CS&I function in
8 1990. The programs are justified on their merits
9 without justifying benchmark variances due to a
10 shift in the recovery mechanism.

11

12 Q. Who is responsible for addressing the expenditures
13 that exceed the 1990 benchmark as shown on MFR C-57?

14 A. The 1990 non-fuel O & M expenses are compared to the
15 benchmark for each of the seven functional areas.
16 Schedule 8 contains a listing of all benchmark
17 variance justifications included in MFR C-57 and the
18 witness responsible for providing the justification.

19

20 Q. Have you compared Gulf's O & M salaries to the
21 benchmark?

22 A. Yes. Schedule 9 of my exhibit contains the
23 benchmark calculations related to salaries for all
24 functions. As shown on Schedule 9, Gulf's total
25 salaries are \$1.3 million less than the benchmark

1 even though Gulf's Production, Sales, and
2 Administrative and General functions exceed the
3 benchmark for salaries.

4
5 Q. Please elaborate on the reasons for the increases in
6 salaries.

7 A. Gulf's compensation program is designed to achieve
8 the two primary objectives of (1) attracting,
9 motivating, and retaining qualified employees and
10 (2) appropriately rewarding employee performance.
11 In order to attain these objectives, Gulf strives to
12 maintain pay levels at a competitive position in the
13 job market while at the same time ensuring internal
14 equity and individual recognition. Gulf regularly
15 monitors its pay practices in relation to other
16 companies through industry surveys.

17 During the 6-year period 1985-1990, Gulf's
18 compound average annual merit increase for the group
19 of employees exempt from the wage-hour law was
20 4.36 percent and for the non-exempt group was
21 3.87 percent. During the same period, the compound
22 average annual general and step increases for the
23 union group were 3.73 percent. In addition to merit
24 increases, Gulf included in the 1990 budget 4.00
25 percent of the salaries of exempt and non-exempt

1 employees for the Performance Pay Plan. The purpose
2 of the plan is to focus the attention and efforts of
3 the employees on achieving goals which have direct
4 and significant influence on individual,
5 organizational, and corporate performance. By
6 attaining individual, organizational, and corporate
7 goals, employees will be eligible to receive a
8 one-time, lump-sum incentive award. Incentive
9 awards are not added to base pay and must be earned
10 every year.

11 Gulf's compound average annual exempt merit
12 increase is 4.36 percent for the period 1985-1990,
13 inclusive. For this same period, the compound
14 average annual merit increase of several utilities
15 and industries surveyed is 5.30 percent. Gulf's
16 entry rate salary level for non-exempt employees is
17 compared to the local businesses with which we
18 compete for employees. In 1989 and projected 1990,
19 Gulf is at 91.10 percent and 88.70 percent,
20 respectively, of the average entry rate. The
21 average annual general wage increase for Gulf's
22 union group during the period 1985 through projected
23 1990, inclusive, is 3.73 percent compared to an
24 increase of 3.74 percent in the Consumer Price Index
25 for the same period. In addition, Gulf's average

1 maximum journeyman lineman wage rate is 2.90 percent
2 below the average for southeastern electric
3 utilities. Gulf's salary and wage levels are
4 reasonable when compared with other businesses with
5 which we compete for employees, and our compensation
6 program continues to meet its prime objectives.
7

8 Q. Please identify the major items comprising the
9 benchmark variance related to the Customer Accounts
10 function.

11 A. As shown on Schedule 3, the Customer Accounts
12 expenses are under the benchmark by \$1.6 million.
13 Improvements in the processing of customer bills and
14 increased computer enhancements have allowed Gulf to
15 hold these expenses significantly below the
16 benchmark level.
17

18 Q. What is the amount of the benchmark variances
19 related to production-related A & G and other A & G
20 expenses?

21 A. As shown on Schedule 3, production related A & G
22 expenses are under the benchmark by \$790,000 due
23 primarily to a reduction in the property insurance
24 attributable to production.

25 Other A & G expenses are over the benchmark by

1 \$43,000 due to salary increases. I have
2 previously justified Gulf's compensation
3 philosophy and the overall salary increases for
4 the period 1985 through 1990. Detailed
5 justification is provided in MFR C-57.

6
7 Q. Have you compared Gulf's level of O & M expenses
8 with other utilities?

9 A. Yes. We routinely develop several indicators with
10 which we compare Gulf's O & M expenses, excluding
11 fuel and purchase power, to other utilities
12 throughout the southeast. Schedule 10 is a graph
13 which compares Gulf's O & M expenses less fuel and
14 purchased power per kilowatthour (kwh) generated
15 to the average for the Southeastern Electric
16 Exchange (SEE) companies for the period 1983
17 through 1988. As shown, Gulf's O & M expense per
18 kwh generated is significantly less than the SEE
19 average. Schedule 10 graphically depicts the
20 reasonableness of Gulf's O & M expenses when
21 compared to other electric utilities in the
22 southeast.

23
24 Q. Mr. Scarbrough, does this conclude your testimony
25 regarding the benchmark justification?

1 A. Yes, it does. However, I would like to emphasize
2 once more that detailed justifications are provided
3 in MPR C-57. I would also request that the
4 Commission carefully consider Gulf's O & M expense
5 budget process and the importance which we place on
6 keeping our O & M expenses as low as possible while
7 maintaining our historically high quality of
8 service. We feel very strongly that the budgeted
9 O & M expenses in 1990 are reasonable and necessary
10 if we are to continue to maintain this reliable
11 level of service for our retail customers.

12
13 Q. Please discuss the purchase of the Plant Scherer
14 Common Facilities.

15 A. Georgia Power Company sold their undivided ownership
16 in Plant Scherer Common Facilities to joint owners
17 Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC) and Dalton in
18 1980 and 1977, respectively. On November 19, 1987,
19 Gulf Power Company purchased its 6.25 percent (four
20 unit plant - 25 percent x 25 percent ownership in
21 one unit) proportionate share of the production
22 plant facilities common to all four Scherer
23 generating units commensurate with its previously
24 acquired 25 percent ownership in Unit No. 3 of Plant
25 Scherer. Gulf purchased its share of the common

1 facilities from OPC and Dalton. Gulf paid a net
2 price of \$29,131,850 for these facilities. The
3 original cost of the facilities was \$24,266,406.
4 The difference of \$4,865,444 represents the interest
5 (carrying costs) incurred by OPC and Dalton on the
6 facilities purchased by Gulf until the date of the
7 sale to Gulf. In addition, Gulf paid legal fees of
8 \$18,687 in connection with the purchase.

9

10 Q. How was the purchase of the Plant Scherer common
11 facilities recorded on Gulf's books?

12 A. We recorded the purchase in accordance with the
13 Uniform System of Accounts published by the FERC and
14 adopted by the FPSC. Electric Plant Instruction
15 No. 5, included therein, requires that when electric
16 plant constituting an operating unit or system is
17 acquired by purchase, the costs of acquisition
18 (\$29,131,850), including expenses incidental thereto
19 (\$18,687) properly includible in electric plant, be
20 charged to Account 102, Electric Plant Purchased or
21 Sold. The required accounting for the acquisition
22 continues as follows:

23 (1) The original cost of plant (\$24,266,406) is
24 credited to Account 102, Electric Plant
25 Purchased or Sold, and concurrently charged to

1 the appropriate electric plant-in-service
2 accounts.

3 (2) The accumulated depreciation (\$3,796,376) and
4 amortization (estimated if not known)
5 applicable to the original cost of the
6 properties purchased is charged to Account 102,
7 Electric Plant Purchased and Sold, and
8 concurrently credited to the appropriate
9 account for accumulated provision for
10 depreciation or amortization.

11 (3) The amount remaining in Account 102
12 (\$8,680,507), Electric Plant Purchased or Sold,
13 is then closed to Account 114, Electric Plant
14 Acquisition adjustments.

15 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
16 accepted the Company's proposal to clear Account
17 102, Electric Plant Purchased or Sold, including
18 depreciation, on November 2, 1988.

19

20 Q. What does the acquisition adjustment of \$8,680,507
21 represent?

22 A. The \$8,680,507 acquisition adjustment amount is made
23 up of three components: interest or carrying cost
24 in the amount of \$4,865,444; Accumulated
25 Depreciation \$3,796,376; and A & G Cost (legal) in

1 the amount of \$18,687.

2

3 Q. Is it reasonable and prudent to include the
4 acquisition adjustment of \$8,680,507 in rate base?

5 A. Absolutely. Unlike other circumstances which have
6 been reviewed in the past by the Commission,
7 particularly in the area of water and sewer
8 utilities, the selling utilities made no profit on
9 the sale of the common facilities to Gulf.

10 The Commission should not rely on a required
11 accounting methodology in determining the prudence
12 of a purchase but should compare the value of the
13 asset received with the total amount paid for the
14 asset in determining the appropriate amount to
15 approve for recovery. To illustrate this point and
16 the significant value to Gulf's customers, it is
17 estimated, as shown in Mr. Parson's testimony, that
18 Plant Scherer's Unit No. 3 1990 depreciated book
19 cost including common facilities, of \$760 per
20 kilowatt is well under the estimated \$1,120 per
21 kilowatt cost to construct to a new coal unit in
22 1990, a savings of approximately \$76.3 million.

23

24 Q. Please explain the non-utility adjustment made to
25 the capital structure described by Mr. McMillan in

1 his testimony?

2 A. In Gulf's 1984 rate filing, the Commission removed
3 the Company's non-utility investments directly from
4 equity, which was contrary to staff's own position
5 in the staff recommendation. Staff acknowledged
6 that each expenditure made by the Company has a
7 multitude of effects on the Company's financial
8 position which are impossible to quantify and that
9 funds cannot be directly traced. No business can
10 operate in today's competitive environment by
11 financing with equity alone and expect to earn a
12 reasonable return. The majority of our non-utility
13 investments are related to Appliance Sales and
14 Service, and a large percentage of that is the
15 accounts receivable for merchandise sales.
16 Recognizing that some items in the capital
17 structure, such as customer deposits, may not be
18 related to non-utility activities, we have adjusted
19 the non-utility activities from the capital
20 structure using long-term debt, preferred stock, and
21 common equity sources of capital as a reasonable
22 proxy for the cost of funds. As indicated in
23 Dr. Morin's testimony, Gulf's non-utility activities
24 do not increase the Company's cost of capital.

25

1 Q. What is the revenue deficiency in the test period
2 brought about by the difference in the earned
3 overall jurisdictional rate of return of
4 6.60 percent with present rates and the 8.34 percent
5 requested?

6 A. The revenue deficiency is \$26,295,000, as shown on
7 Schedule 17 of Mr. McMillan's testimony.
8

9 Q. Would you please summarize your testimony?

10 A. Yes. As shown in my testimony, and the testimony of
11 the other Company's witnesses, as well as the
12 supporting documentation, Gulf Power needs and is
13 entitled to the rate relief it is requesting.
14 Without the interim and permanent rate relief
15 requested, it will be impossible for the Company to
16 sustain any reasonable level of financial integrity
17 in the future. The need is immediate. We have been
18 instructed by this Commission in the past not to cut
19 expenses below that level necessary to provide
20 quality reliable electric service to our customers.
21 We have not done so. At the same time, our
22 shareholders do not and should not expect to earn
23 below a reasonable level on their investment in our
24 Company. They are doing so. As the Chief Financial
25 Officer of Gulf Power Company, it is my

1 responsibility to see that the price of our product
2 is sufficient to sustain the required level of
3 service to our customers and to provide a reasonable
4 level of return to our shareholders. We have, in
5 our filings for interim and permanent relief, shown
6 the need for the requested increase in our rates.

7

8 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

9 A. Yes.

10

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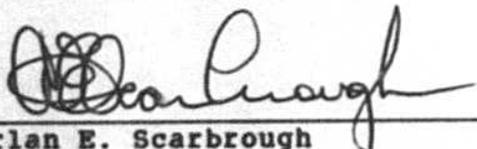
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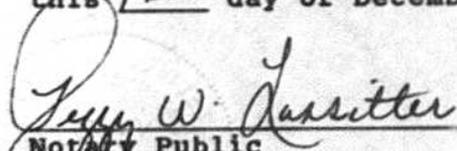
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF ESCAMBIA)

Before me the undersigned authority personally appeared Arlan E. Scarbrough, who first being duly sworn, says that he is the witness named in the testimony to which the Affidavit is attached; that he prepared said testimony and any exhibits included therein on behalf of Gulf Power Company in support of its petition for an increase in rates and charges in Florida Public Service Commission Docket No. 891345-EI; and that the matters and things set forth herein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated at Pensacola, Florida this 7th of December, 1989.


Arlan E. Scarbrough

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 7th day of December, 1989.


Notary Public

Notary Public, State of Florida
My Commission Expires March 23, 1991
Bonded thru Tivy Fain - Insurance Inc.

<u>Index</u>	<u>Schedule Number</u>
Operation and Maintenance Expenses - Comparison of 1989 Prior year to 1990 Budget	1
Operation and Maintenance Expenses - Benchmark Comparison by Function 1989-1990	2
Operation and Maintenance Expenses - Benchmark Comparison by Function 1984-1990	3
Operation and Maintenance Expenses - Benchmark Comparison by Function 1983-1990	4
Transmission Line Rentals - Adjustment Order No. 14030	5
Transmission Expenses - Benchmark Comparison 1984-1990	6
Administrative and General Expenses - Benchmark Comparison 1984-1990	7
Summary of Benchmark Variance Justification 1984-1990	8
Salary - Benchmark Comparison 1984-1990	9
Operation and Maintenance Expenses - Comparison of Gulf to Southeastern Electric Exchange Average	10
1988 Retail Sales Per KWH Sold For Comparison Companies	11
Standard & Poor's Security Rating Report on Gulf Power Company	12
Responsibility For Minimum Filing Requirements	13

GULF POWER COMPANY

Operation and Maintenance Expense
Excluding Direct Fuel, Purchased Power, and Over/Under Recovery of Fuel
Comparison of 1989 Prior Year to 1990 Budget

	1	2	3	4	5
	1989 PRIOR YEAR \$	1990 BUDGET \$	DIFFERENCE DOLLARS (COL 2-1)	DIFFERENCE PERCENT (COL 3/1)	WITNESS
PRODUCTION	52,762,788	52,736,690	(26,098)	-0.05%	LEE
TRANSMISSION	6,234,891	7,297,423	1,062,532	17.04%	HOWELL
DISTRIBUTION	13,641,160	14,530,411	889,251	6.52%	JORDAN
CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS LESS NOI ADJUSTMENT	6,830,011 (640,254)	7,779,523	949,512 640,254	13.90% -100.00%	
ADJUSTED CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS	7,470,265	7,779,523	309,258	4.14%	SCARBROUGH
CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INFORMATION LESS NOI ADJUSTMENT	5,776,191 1,892,761	7,065,574 1,640,125	1,289,383 (252,636)	22.32% -13.35%	
ADJUSTED CS&I	3,883,430	5,425,449	1,542,019	39.71%	BOWERS
SALES LESS NOI ADJUSTMENT	1,524,346 32,335	835,070 147,580	(689,276) 115,245	-45.22% 356.41%	
ADJUSTED SALES	1,492,011	687,490	(804,521)	-53.92%	BOWERS
ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL LESS NOI ADJUSTMENT	38,142,810 2,628,540	39,467,600 1,020,462	1,324,790 (1,608,078)	3.47% -61.18%	
ADJUSTED A&G	35,514,270	38,447,138	2,932,868	8.26%	SCARBROUGH
TOTAL ADJUSTED O & M	120,998,815	126,904,124	5,905,309	4.88%	
ADD NET OPERATING INCOME ADJUSTMENTS	3,913,382	2,808,167	(1,105,215)	-28.24%	
TOTAL SYSTEM O & M	124,912,197	129,712,291	4,800,094	3.84%	

Explanations for Comparison of
1989 Prior Year O & M Less Direct Fuel and Purchased Power
to the 1990 Budget by Function

Production

The decrease is due primarily to an increased level of structural painting performed at Plant Crist in 1989, a combustion turbine inspection and repair performed at Plant Smith in 1989, and decreased level of turbine and boiler inspections in 1990. These decreases are offset by salary increases and inflation.

Transmission

The increase is due to Environmental Ground Testing to be performed in 1990 as required by the State of Florida Department of Environmental Regulations and an increase in maintenance projects in the Divisions such as reclearing of transmission line right-of-ways and replacement of fiberglass strain rods in down guys and on crossarms.

Distribution

Increase is due to a transfer of the expense for Load Research Metering from the Customer Service and Information function, a change in fixed salary distribution for Engineering personnel, and an increase in overhead line maintenance.

Customer Accounts

The method of accruing for uncollectible accounts was changed as of September, 1989. The new method is based on an aging of receivables which more accurately reflects actual uncollectible account write-offs. The correction of the allowance for uncollectible accounts resulted in a credit balance in the uncollectible expense account in 1989.

Customer Service and Information

The Residential Pricing Research Project (ICS) was cancelled in 1989 and budgeted for 1990. Good Cents Existing, Energy Education and Industrial and Commercial Presentations and Seminars ECCR programs will be moved to base rates in 1990. Several changes in programs and the related advertising were delayed in 1989 due to the selection of a new advertising agency.

Sales

The decrease reflects changes in market strategies and program implementation caused by moving away from direct selling as a means of improving load factor to placing greater emphasis on energy management.

Administrative and General

Increase is due to salary increases and inflation, increases in office supplies, travel, and training, and an increase in outside services. These increases are offset by a decrease in rate case expense.

GULF POWER COMPANY

O & M Benchmark Comparison by Function
 Excluding Direct Fuel, Purchased Power, Over/(Under) Recovery of Fuel and ECCR
 Comparison of 1990 Benchmark Based on 1989 Adjusted Prior Year Escalated by Customer Growth and Inflation to 1990 Adjusted O & M

(Dollars in Thousands)

	1989 ADJUSTED O & M PRIOR YEAR	ECCR MOVED TO BASE RATES	1989 ADJUSTED BASE	COMPOUND MULTIPLIER	1990 BENCHMARK	BENCHMARK ADJUSTMENT FOR NEW PLANT RELATED O & M	TOTAL ADJUSTED BENCHMARK	1990 ADJUSTED O & M TEST YEAR	BENCHMARK VARIANCE
PRODUCTION	52,763		52,763	1.0437	55,069	1,957	57,026	52,737	(4,289)
TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS	3,200		3,200	1.0437	3,340	1,822	5,162	3,017	(2,145)
OTHER TRANSMISSION	3,034		3,034	1.0674	3,238	3	3,241	4,280	1,039
TOTAL TRANSMISSION	6,234	0	6,234		6,578	1,825	8,403	7,297	(1,106)
DISTRIBUTION	13,642		13,642	1.0674	14,561		14,561	14,530	(31)
CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS	7,470		7,470	1.0674	7,973		7,973	7,780	(193)
CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INFORMATION	3,884	903	4,787	1.0674	5,110		5,110	5,426	316
SALES	1,492		1,492	1.0674	1,593		1,593	687	(906)
PRODUCTION RELATED A & G	5,576		5,576	1.0437	5,820	263	6,083	5,655	(428)
OTHER ADMIN AND GENERAL	29,938	85	30,023	1.0674	32,047		32,047	32,792	745
TOTAL ADMIN AND GENERAL	35,514	85	35,599		37,867	263	38,130	38,447	317
TOTAL ADJUSTED O & M LESS DIRECT FUEL, PURCHASED POWER, AND ECCR	120,999	988	121,987		128,751	4,045	132,796	126,904	(5,892)

4

GULF POWER COMPANY
 EXCLUDING FUEL, PURCHASED POWER, OVER/(UNDER) RECOVERY OF FUEL AND ECCR
 COMPARISON OF 1990 BENCHMARK BASED ON 1984 ALLOWED IN ORDER 14030 ESCALATED BY CUSTOMER GROWTH AND INFLATION TO 1990 ADJUSTED OBM

(Dollars in Thousands)

DESCRIPTION	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)	(M)	(N)	(O)	
	STEAM PROD	OTHER PROD	OTHER POWER SUPPLY	TOTAL PROD	TRANS- MISSION RENTS	TRANS- MISSION OTHER	TOTAL TRANS- MISSION	DISTRI- BUTION	CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS & INFO.	CUSTOMER SERVICE	SALES	PROD REL GENERAL	ADM. & GENERAL	ADM. & GENERAL	TOTAL ADM. & GENERAL	TOTAL
PROJECTED 1984 OBM EXPENSES LESS DIRECT FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER	40,073	84	1,024	41,181	1,387	2,607	3,994	7,911	6,763	5,395	176	4,958	23,806	28,764	94,184	
NET OPERATING INCOME OBM ADJUSTMENTS	0	0	0	0				0	0	(3,730)	(175)		(717)	(717)	(4,622)	
FPSC OBM ADJUSTMENTS DOCKET B40036-E1	(3,906)	(3)	(4)	(3,913)	(425)	(272)	(697)	(241)	(609)	(160)	(1)	(1,573)	(2,083)	(3,656)	(9,357)	
1984 ALLOWED OBM LESS DIRECT FUEL, ECCR AND PURCHASED POWER - ADJUSTED SYSTEM OBM	36,167	81	1,020	37,268	962	2,335	3,297	7,670	6,074	1,505	0	3,385	21,006	24,391	80,205	
TRUE-UP OF 1984 COMPOUND MULTIPLIER (FACTOR)						0.0368		0.0368	0.0368	0.0368	0.0368		0.0368			
ADJUSTMENT TO ACTUAL CPI-CUST GROWTH (AMOUNT)	0	0	0	0	0	51	53	167	140	33	0	0	373	373	766	
1984 ALLOWED OBM LESS DIRECT FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTED FOR ACTUAL FACTOR	36,167	81	1,020	37,268	962	2,388	3,350	7,837	6,214	1,538	0	3,385	21,379	24,764	80,971	
ADD PLANT DANIEL RELATED ADJ. DOCKET B40036-E1					425		425					1,573		1,573	1,998	
FORMER ECCR PROGRAMS MOVED TO BASE RATES										2,248			348	348	2,596	
TOTAL OBM BASE ADJ. FOR PLANT DANIEL & FORMER ECCR	36,167	81	1,020	37,268	1,387	2,388	3,775	7,837	6,214	3,786	0	4,958	21,727	26,685	85,565	
COMPOUND MULTIPLIER 1984 - 1990	1.2468	1.2468	1.2468	1.2468	1.2468	1.5073		1.5073	1.5073	1.5073	1.5073	1.2468	1.5073			
1990 BENCHMARK LESS NEW PLANT SCHERER, RELATED NEW TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS, DIRECT FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER - SYSTEM	45,093	101	1,272	46,466	1,729	3,600	5,329	11,813	9,366	5,707	0	6,182	32,749	38,931	117,612	
1990 PLANT SCHERER AND ASSOCIATED TRANS LINE RENTS	1,957			1,957	1,822	3	1,825					263		263	4,045	
1990 BENCHMARK LESS DIRECT FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER - SYSTEM	47,050	101	1,272	48,423	3,551	3,603	7,154	11,813	9,366	5,707	0	6,445	32,749	39,194	121,657	
1990 BUDGETED OBM LESS DIRECT FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER - SYSTEM	51,547	47	1,143	52,737	3,017	4,280	7,297	14,530	7,780	7,066	835	5,655	33,812	39,467	129,712	
NET OPERATING INCOME OBM ADJUSTMENTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,640)	(148)	0	(1,020)	(1,020)	(2,808)	
1990 BUDGETED OBM LESS DIRECT FUEL, ECCR AND PURCHASED POWER - ADJUSTED SYSTEM OBM	51,547	47	1,143	52,737	3,017	4,280	7,297	14,530	7,780	5,426	687	5,655	32,792	38,447	126,904	
BENCHMARK VARIANCE - ADJUSTED SYSTEM OBM	4,497	(54)	(129)	4,314	(534)	677	143	2,717	(1,586)	(281)	687	(790)	43	(747)	5,247	

Florida Public Service Commission
 Docket No. 891345-E1
 GULF POWER COMPANY
 Witness: A. E. Scarborough
 Exhibit No. _____
 Schedule 3
 Page 1 of 1

GULF POWER COMPANY

O & M Benchmark Comparison by Function
 Excluding Direct Fuel, Purchased Power, Over/(Under) Recovery of Fuel and ECCR

Comparison of 1990 Benchmark Based on 1983 Allowed in Order 11498 Escalated by Customer Growth and Inflation to 1990 Adjusted O & M

(Dollars in Thousands)

	1983 O & M ALLOWED IN ORDER 11498	ECCR MOVED TO BASE RATES	1983 ADJUSTED BASE	COMPOUND MULTIPLIER	1990 BENCHMARK	BENCHMARK ADJUSTMENT FOR NEW PLANT RELATED O & M	TOTAL ADJUSTED BENCHMARK	1990 ADJUSTED O & M TEST YEAR	BENCHMARK VARIANCE
PRODUCTION	40,966		40,966	1.3014	53,313	1,957	55,270	52,737	(2,533)
TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS	1,172		1,172	1.3014	1,525	1,822	3,347	3,017	(330)
OTHER TRANSMISSION	2,527		2,527	1.6599	4,195	3	4,198	4,280	82
TOTAL TRANSMISSION	3,699	0	3,699		5,720	1,825	7,545	7,297	(248)
DISTRIBUTION	7,665		7,665	1.6599	12,723		12,723	14,530	1,807
CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS	6,510		6,510	1.6599	10,806		10,806	7,780	(3,026)
CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INFORMATION	1,392	1,813	3,205	1.6599	5,320		5,320	5,426	106
SALES	0		0	1.6599	0		0	687	687
PRODUCTION RELATED A & G	5,292		5,292	1.3014	6,887	263	7,150	5,655	(1,495)
OTHER ADMIN AND GENERAL	18,852	194	19,046	1.6599	31,614		31,614	32,792	1,178
TOTAL ADMIN AND GENERAL	24,144	194	24,338		38,501	263	38,764	38,447	(317)
TOTAL ADJUSTED O & M LESS DIRECT FUEL, PURCHASED POWER, AND ECCR	84,376	2,007	86,383		126,383	4,045	130,428	126,904	(3,524)

GULF POWER COMPANY
ANALYSIS OF THE ORDER #14030 ADJUSTMENT TO
TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS

DESCRIPTION	(8000)
-----	-----
AS FILED 1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK	

1979 TRANSMISSION O&M EXPENSES	1,444
1979 - 1984 BENCHMARK ESCALATION FACTOR	1.73248
-----	-----
1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK	2,502
1984 BUDGET TRANSMISSION O&M EXPENSE	3,994
-----	-----
VARIANCE (BUDGET O&M MINUS BENCHMARK)	1,492
-----	-----
COMMISSION ADJUSTMENT RELATED TO LINE RENTALS	

1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK	2,502
DIVIDE BY 1979 - 1984 CUSTOMER GROWTH FACTOR	1.20439
-----	-----
1984 BENCHMARK LESS CUSTOMER GROWTH ESCALATION	2,077
-----	-----
1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK	2,502
1984 BENCHMARK LESS CUSTOMER GROWTH ESCALATION	(2,077)
-----	-----
ORDER #14030 ADJUSTMENT TO LINE RENTALS	425
-----	-----
PROPER 1984 BENCHMARK CALCULATION	

1979 TRANSMISSION O&M EXPENSES	1,444
1979 - 1984 BENCHMARK ESCALATION FACTOR	1.73248
-----	-----
1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK FOR GULF - OWNED FACILITIES	2,502
TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS (1984 AMOUNT) FOR NEW PLANT	1,381
-----	-----
1984 TRANSMISSION EXPENSE BENCHMARK	3,883
1984 BUDGET TRANSMISSION O&M EXPENSE	3,994
-----	-----
VARIANCE (BUDGET O&M MINUS BENCHMARK)	111
-----	-----

GULF POWER COMPANY
CALCULATION OF 1990 BENCHMARK
RELATED TO TRANSMISSION EXPENSES

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

DESCRIPTION	TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS	OTHER TRANSMISSION EXPENSES	TOTAL TRANSMISSION EXPENSES
TRANSMISSION EXPENSES ALLOWED IN ORDER #14030	962	2,335	3,297
ADJUSTMENT FOR TRUE - UP OF 1984 CUSTOMER GROWTH FACTOR	0	53	53
BASE YEAR AMOUNTS	962	2,388	3,350
ADD 1984 DANIEL - RELATED TRANS. LINE RENTAL ADJUSTMENT	425	0	425
TOTAL BASE ADJUSTED FOR DANIEL	1,387	2,388	3,775
ESCALATION FACTORS 1984 - 1990 (1)	1,248	1,5073	
1990 BENCHMARK RELATED TO TRANSMISSION EXPENSE	1,729	3,600	5,329
ADD 1990 SCHERER - RELATED TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS	1,822	3	1,825
1990 BENCHMARK RELATED TO TRANSMISSION EXPENSE	3,551	3,603	7,154
1990 BUDGETED TRANSMISSION EXPENSE	3,017	4,280	7,297
1990 BENCHMARK VARIANCE RELATED TO TRANSMISSION EXPENSE	(534)	677	143

(1) TRANSMISSION LINE RENTALS ARE ESCALATED BY THE INFLATION FACTOR ONLY WHILE THE REMAINING EXPENSES ARE ESCALATED BY CUSTOMER GROWTH AND INFLATION.

GULF POWER COMPANY
CALCULATION OF 1990 BENCHMARK RELATED TO
ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

DESCRIPTION	PRODUCTION RELATED A&G EXPENSES	OTHER A&G EXPENSES	TOTAL A&G EXPENSES
ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES ALLOWED IN ORDER #14030	3,385	21,006	24,391
ADJUSTMENT FOR TRUE - UP OF 1984 CUSTOMER GROWTH FACTOR	0	373	373
BASE YEAR AMOUNTS	3,385	21,379	24,764
ADD 1984 DANIEL - RELATED A&G EXPENSE ADJUSTMENT	1,573	0	1,573
FORMER ECCR PROGRAMS MOVED TO BASE RATES	0	348	348
TOTAL O&M BASE ADJ FOR DANIEL	4,958	21,727	26,685
ESCALATION FACTORS 1984 - 1990 (1)	1,2468	1,5073	
1990 BENCHMARK RELATED TO ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES BEFORE PLANT SCHERER A&G EXPENSES	6,182	32,749	38,931
ADD 1990 SCHERER - RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES	263	0	263
1990 BENCHMARK RELATED TO ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES	6,445	32,749	39,194
1990 BUDGETED A&G EXPENSES	5,655	33,812	39,467
NET OPERATING INCOME O&M ADJUSTMENTS	0	(1,020)	(1,020)
1990 ADJUSTED A&G EXPENSES	5,655	32,792	38,447
1990 BENCHMARK VARIANCE RELATED TO ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSES	(790)	43	(747)

(1) A&G EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCTION ARE ESCALATED BY THE INFLATION FACTOR ONLY
WHILE THE REMAINING EXPENSES ARE ESCALATED BY CUSTOMER GROWTH AND INFLATION.

GULF POWER COMPANY
SUMMARY OF BENCHMARK VARIANCE JUSTIFICATIONS
ADJUSTED NON-FUEL O & M EXPENSES LESS PURCHASED POWER BENCHMARK
COMPARISON BY FUNCTION 1984 ALLOWED TO 1990 BUDGET

NO.	DESCRIPTION	NFR C-57 PAGE REFERENCE	VARIANCE AMOUNT (\$000)	WITNESS
	Benchmark Justification Index	1		
	Schedule of 1990 Benchmark Expenses	2		A. E. Scarbrough
	STEAM PRODUCTION	3		
1.	Research and Development	4	210	E. B. Parsons, Jr.
2.	Additional Personnel and Salary Increases	10	853	C. R. Lee
3.	Southern Company Services	14	907	Parsons and Lee
4.	Turbine and Boiler Inspections	35	202	C. R. Lee
5.	Electric Power Research Institute	41	242	E. B. Parsons, Jr.
6.	Condenser & Cooling Tower Corrosion - Crist Plant	42	289	C. R. Lee
7.	Plant Daniel	44	646	C. R. Lee
8.	Ash Hauling and Storage Dry Land Fill - Smith Plant	51	635	C. R. Lee
9.	Change of Fuel - Smith Plant	52	3	Parsons and Lee
10.	Duct and Fan Repair	54	684	C. R. Lee
	TOTAL STEAM PRODUCTION		4,671	
	TRANSMISSION OTHER	58		
1.	Environmental Ground Testing	59	693	M. W. Howell
	TOTAL TRANSMISSION OTHER		693	

GULF POWER COMPANY
SUMMARY OF BENCHMARK VARIANCE JUSTIFICATIONS
ADJUSTED NON-FUEL O & M EXPENSES LESS PURCHASED POWER BENCHMARK
COMPARISON BY FUNCTION 1984 ALLOWED TO 1990 BUDGET

NO.	DESCRIPTION	MFR C-57 PAGE REFERENCE	VARIANCE AMOUNT (\$000)	WITNESS
DISTRIBUTION		60		
1.	Public Safety Inspection and Maintenance	61	740	C. E. Jordan
2.	Underground Line Extensions	62	351	C. E. Jordan
3.	Distribution System Work Order (DSO) Clearance	63	952	C. E. Jordan
4.	SCS Production & Maintenance Support - MMS	65	56	C. E. Jordan
5.	Load Research Expense	67	144	C. E. Jordan
6.	Street Lighting	68	102	C. E. Jordan
7.	Obsolete Distribution Material	69	83	C. E. Jordan
8.	Vehicle Rebuild Expenses	70	117	C. E. Jordan
9.	Electric Power Research Institute	71	55	E. B. Parsons, Jr.
10.	Pensacola Underground Network System Repair	72	135	C. E. Jordan
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION			2,735	
SALES		73		
1.	Economic Development	74	687	W. P. Bowers
TOTAL SALES			687	
OTHER ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL EXPENSES		78		
1.	Salary Increases	78	883	A. E. Scarbrough
TOTAL OTHER ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL EXPENSES			883	
SALARY INCREASE BENCHMARK JUSTIFICATION		79	All Functions	A. E. Scarbrough
TOTAL JUSTIFICATIONS			9,669	
TOTAL 1990 O&M BENCHMARK			121,657	
TOTAL ADJUSTED 1990 O&M LESS DIRECT FUEL, PURCHASED POWER AND ECCR			126,904	
TOTAL O&M BENCHMARK VARIANCE			5,247	

GULF POWER COMPANY

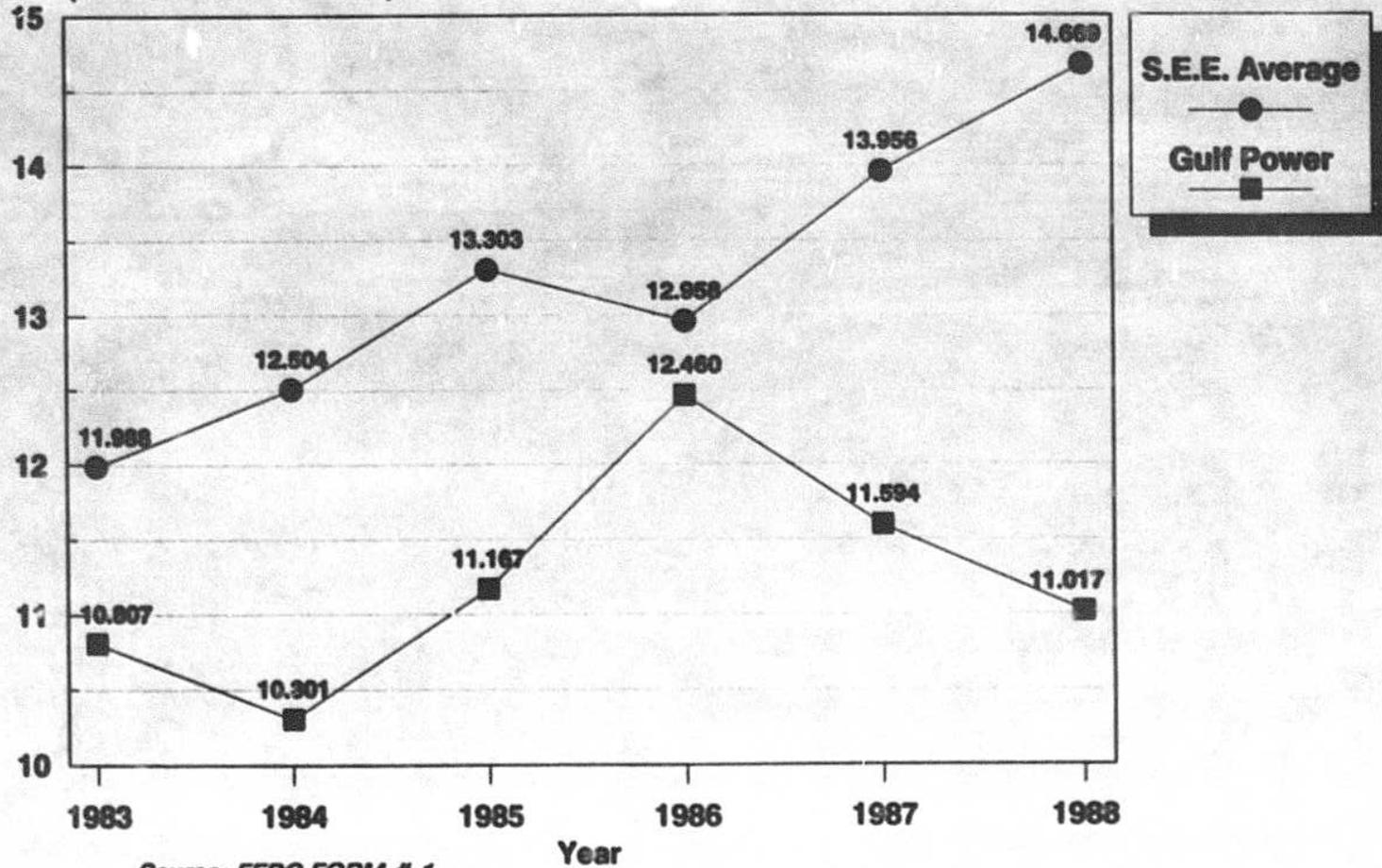
1990 O & M SALARY BENCHMARK
BASE = 1984 O & M ALLOWED IN ORDER #14030 BY FUNCTION

(Dollars in Thousands)

FUNCTION	1984 ALLOWED	ESCALATION FACTOR	1990 BENCHMARK	1990 BUDGET	VARIANCE
PRODUCTION	11,046	1.2468	13,772	14,625	853
TRANSMISSION	942	1.5073	1,420	1,341	(79)
DISTRIBUTION	4,086	1.5073	6,159	6,103	(56)
CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS	3,397	1.5073	5,120	4,541	(579)
CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INFO (A)	3,514	1.5073	5,297	2,666	(2,631)
SALES	0	1.5073	0	252	252
ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL	7,078	1.5073	10,669	11,552	883
TOTAL	30,063		42,437	41,080	(1,357)

(A) INCLUDES THE LABOR ASSOCIATED WITH PROGRAMS PREVIOUSLY RECOVERED THROUGH THE ENERGY CONSERVATION COST RECOVERY (ECCR) MECHANISM AND NOW RECOVERED THROUGH BASE RATES. THE ADJUSTMENT IS REFLECTED ON SCHEDULE 3.

Gulf Power Company vs. S.E.E. Average
Total O&M Expense Excluding Fuel & Purchased Power
 (Mills / KWH Generated)



Source: FERC FORM # 1

13

GULF POWER COMPANY

1988 TOTAL RETAIL SALES
 PER KWH SOLD FOR COMPARISON COMPANIES

COMPANY NUMBER	RETAIL REVENUE PER KWH SOLD	RANK	
1	7.66971	1	
17	7.12548	2	
23	6.97564	3	
15	6.93725	4	
18	6.78951	5	
22	6.74349	6	
13	6.71452	7	_____ 4th QUARTILE
25	6.45198	8	
6	6.16351	9	
26	6.09617	10	
12	6.05666	11	
4	6.05067	12	
9	5.94514	13	_____ 3rd QUARTILE
10	5.87909	14	
3	5.81048	15	
2	5.74534	16	
5	5.60469	17	
7	5.60025	18	
14	5.50517	19	
21	5.50496	20	_____ 2nd QUARTILE
8	5.38322	21	
20	5.18185	22	
19	5.07982	23	GULF POWER
11	4.71037	24	
16	4.61604	25	
24	4.34189	26	_____ 1st QUARTILE

GULF POWER COMPANY

1988 TOTAL RETAIL SALES
PER KWH SOLD FOR COMPARISON COMPANIES

ASSUME RATE RELIEF OF \$26,295 IN 1988 FOR GULF ONLY

COMPANY NUMBER -----	RETAIL REVENUE PER KWH SOLD -----	RANK -----	
1	7.66971	1	
17	7.12548	2	
23	6.97564	3	
15	6.93725	4	
18	6.78951	5	
22	6.74349	6	
13	6.71452	7	_____ 4th QUARTILE
25	6.45198	8	
6	6.16351	9	
26	6.09617	10	
12	6.05666	11	
4	6.05067	12	
9	5.94514	13	_____ 3rd QUARTILE
10	5.87909	14	
3	5.81048	15	
2	5.74534	16	
5	5.60469	17	
7	5.60025	18	
14	5.50517	19	
21	5.50496	20	_____ 2nd QUARTILE
19	5.44363	21	GULF POWER
8	5.38322	22	
20	5.18185	23	
11	4.71037	24	
16	4.61604	25	
24	4.34189	26	_____ 1st QUARTILE

STANDARD & POOR'S CREDIT WEEK

Gulf Power Co.
(The Southern Co. unit)

Reviewed ratings affirmed

Rationale: Ratings are affirmed on Gulf Power Co.'s senior secured debt at 'A' and senior unsecured and preferred stock at 'A-'. At June 30, total debt outstanding was approximately \$505 million. Ratings incorporate expectations that financial parameters will remain appropriate for the current rating given healthy retail sales growth and a supportive Florida regulatory environment. Reductions in off-system and other wholesale revenues and dedication of additional amounts of plant Daniel and plant Sherer to retail rate base have resulted in increased rate relief needs. The company is expected to file for a rate increase later in the year and regulation is anticipated to continue to support current credit quality. The agreement by the company to plead guilty to two counts of felony charges ends a rather long and politicized grand jury investigation. Nevertheless, the company is still subject to regulatory scrutiny involving illegal payments to vendors, which could negatively impact upcoming rate hearings. Healthy retail sales growth should offset some of the loss of wholesale load and preclude significant erosion in financial measures. While debt leverage remains aggressive for the current rating, limited capital requirements should be internally funded, allowing opportunities to improve the capital structure. Also, the company will continue to have access to ongoing equity infusions from the parent company. In light of the current weak capital structure and loss of significant wholesale revenues, if needed rate relief is not forthcoming, financial protection measures could fall to levels below those commensurate with the current rating. *Outlook: Negative.*

Gulf Power Co. financial statistics

(Mil \$)	—Year ended Dec 31—			
	1989*	1988	1987	1986
Funds from operations	115.5	128.0	114.1	130.5
Dividends	42.2	41.2	40.2	39.3
Net cash flow (NCF)	73.4	86.9	73.8	91.2
Capital expenditures (Capex)	85.9	85.8	95.5	73.7
Total capital (mil \$)	934.8	929.5	881.8	876.1
Short-term debt (%)	1.6	1.7	1.7	0.8
Long-term debt (%)	52.7	52.9	53.8	55.1
Preferred stock (%)	7.2	7.2	7.8	8.2
Common equity (%)	38.5	38.1	36.6	36.0
Pre-tax interest coverage (x)	2.80	2.95	2.93	2.85
Preferred div. coverage (x)	2.29	2.41	2.35	2.23
Return on avg. equity (%)	11.1	13.0	12.6	9.7
APDC/common earnings (%)	1.8	2.8	4.8	35.5
Common div. payout (%)	90.7	77.5	81.0	71.3
Capex/avg. total cap (%)	7.0	7.2	10.9	8.8
Cash flow int. coverage (x)	4.01	4.27	3.75	3.82
NCF/avg. total debt (%)	14.3	17.3	15.1	20.2
NCF/Capex (%)	111.4	132.1	77.3	123.7

*For 12 months ended June 30 (unaudited)
N/A — Not available

Deborah A. Goldsmith
(212) 208-1394



MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
A-1a	Full Revenue Requirements Increase Requested
A-1b	Interim Revenue Requirements Increase Requested
A-2	Summary of Rate Case
A-3	Reasons for Requested Rate Increase
A-7	Statistical Information
A-8	Five Year Analysis-Change in Cost
A-9	Summary of Jurisdictional Rate Base
A-10	Summary of Jurisdictional Net Operating Income
A-11	Summary of Adjustments Not Made
A-12a	Summary of Jurisdictional Capital Structure
A-12b	Summary of Jurisdictional Capital Cost Rates
A-12c	Summary of Financial Integrity Indicators
A-14	Financial and Statistical Report

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
B-1	Balance Sheet-Jurisdictional
B-2a	Balance Sheet-Jurisdictional Asset Calculation
B-2b	Balance Sheet-Jurisdictional Liabilities Calculation
B-3	Adjusted Rate Base
B-4	Rate Base Adjustments
B-5	Commission Rate Base Adjustments
B-6	Company Rate Base Adjustments
B-11	Capital Additions and Retirements-Property Merged or Acquired From Other Companies
B-12d	Property Held for Future Use - Cold standby Units
B-13c	Construction Work In Progress - AFUDC
B-14	Working Capital-13 Month Average
B-15	Working Capital-13 Month Average Balances
B-16	Nuclear Fuel Balances
B-17a	System Fuel Inventory
B-17b	Fuel Inventory by Plant
B-19	Accounts Payable-Fuel
B-20	Plant Materials and Operating Supplies
B-21	Other Deferred Credits
B-22	Miscellaneous Deferred Debits
B-23	Investment Tax Credits-Annual Analysis
B24a	Total Accumulated Deffered Income Taxes

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
B-24b	State Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes
B-24c	Federal Accumulated Deffered Income Taxes
B-25	Additional Rate Base Components
B-26	Accounting Policy Changes Affecting Rate Base
B-27	Detail of Changes in Rate Base
B-28a	Leasing Arrangements
B-28b	Leasing Arrangements (ERTA 1981)
B-29	10 Year Historical Balance Sheet

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
C-1	Jurisdictional Net Operating Income
C-2	Adjusted Jurisdictional Net Operating Income
C-3	Jurisdictional Net Operating Income Adjustments
C-4	Commission Net Operating Income Adjustments
C-5	Company Net Operating Income Adjustments
C-6	Out of Period Adjustments to Revenues and Expenses
C-7	Extraordinary Revenues and Expenses
C-8	Report of Operating Compared to Forecast-Revenues and Expenses
C-10	Operating Revenues Detail
C-12	Budgeted Versus Actual Operating Revenues and Expenses
C-13	Monthly Fuel Revenues and Expenses
C-14	Monthly Fuel Expenses
C-15	Fuel Revenues and Expenses Reconciliation
C-17	Conservation Revenues and Expenses
C-18	Conservation Revenues and Expenses
C-19	Operation and Maintenance Expenses-Test Year
C-20	Operation and Maintenance Expenses-Prior Year
C-21	Detail of Changes in Expenses
C-25	Uncollectible Account
C-26	Advertising Expenses

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
C-27	Industry Association Dues
C-28	Accumulated Provision Accounts-228.1, 228.2 and 228.4
C-29	Lobbying and other Political Expenses
C-30	Civic and Charitable Contributions
C-31	Administrative Expenses
C-32	Miscellaneous General Expenses
C-33	Payroll and Fringe Benefit Increase Compared to CPI
C-36	Current Depreciation Rate
C-37	Proposed Depreciation Rates
C-38a	Taxes Other Than Income Taxes
C-38b	Revenue Taxes
C-39	State Deferred Income Taxes
C-40	Federal Deferred Income Taxes
C-41	State and Federal Income Taxes
C-42	Deferred Tax Adjustment
C-43	Reconciliation of Tax Expense
C-44	Interest in Tax Expense
C-45	Consolidated Return
C-46	Income Tax Returns

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
C-47	Parent(s) Debt Information
C-48	Reconciliation of Total Income Tax Provision
C-49	Miscellaneous Tax Information
C-50	Required Bonds
C-51	Gains and Losses on Disposition of Plant and Property
C-52	Non-Fuel Operation and Maintenance Expense Compared to CPI
C-53	O & M Benchmark Comparison By Function
C-54	O & M Adjustments by Function
C-55	Benchmark Year Recoverable O & M Expenses by Function
C-56	O & M Compound Multiplier Calculation
C-57	O & M Benchmark Variance by Function
C-58	Revenue Expansion Factor
C-59	Attrition Allowance
C-60	Transactions with Affiliated Companies
C-61	Performance Indices
C-62	Non-Utility Operations Utilizing Utility Assets
C-63	Statement of Cash Flows
C-64	Earning Test
C-65	Outside Professional Services
C-66	Pension Cost

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
D-1	Cost of Capital-13 Months Average
D-2	Cost of Capital-10 Year History
D-3a	Short-Term Debt
D-3b	Short-Term Financing Policy
D-4a	Long-Term Debt Outstanding
D-4b	Debt Outstanding - Call Provisions and Special Restrictions
D-5	Common Stock Issues-Annual Data
D-6	Reports of Operations Compared to Forecast-Cost of Capital
D-7	Preferred Stock
D-8	Customer Deposits
D-9	Common Stock Data
D-10a	Financing Plans-Stock and Bond Issues
D-10b	Financing Plans - General
D-11a	Financial Indicators-Summary
D-11b	Financial Indicators-Calculations of Interest and Preferred Dividend Coverage Ratios

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
D-11c	Financial Indicators-Calculations as a percentage of Income Available for Common
D-11d	Financial Indicators-Calculation of the Percentage of Construction Funds Generated Internally
D-12a	Reconciliation of Jurisdictional Rate Base and Capital Structure
D-12b	Schedule of Pro-Rata Adjustments

Florida Public Service Commission
Docket No. 891345-EI
GULF POWER COMPANY
Witness: A. E. Scarbrough
Exhibit No. _____ (AES-1)
Schedule 13
Page 9 of 9

MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Title</u>
F-1	Annual and Quarterly Report to Shareholders
F-2	Financial Statements-Opinions of Independent Certified Public Accountants
F-3	SEC Reports
F-4	FERC Audit
F-5	Company Directors
F-6	Officers of Affiliated Companies or Subsidiaries
F-7	Business Contracts with Officers or Directors
F-8	NRC Safety Citations
F-17	Assumptions