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ORIGINAL
FILE COPY

January 16, 1996

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

HAND DELIVERY

Re: Florida Public Utilities Company; Docket No. 960003-GU

Dear Ms Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company in connection with the hearings scheduled to begin February 21, 1996 in this docket are the original and 15 copies of the following:

1. Petition for Approval of Florida Public Utilities Company's Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Factors;
2. Direct Testimony of George Bachman and Marc L. Schneidermann; and
3. Schedules E-1, E-1R, E-2, E-3, E-4 and E-5.

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WAS Enclosures
OTH
cc: Parties of Record
Mr. George Bachman

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the enclosed extra copy of this letter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Norman H. Horton Jr.
Norman H. Horton, Jr.

RECEIVED & FILED
Mace
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

Petition
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
00508 JAN 16 96
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Purchased Gas)
Adjustment Cost Recovery)
_____)

Docket No. 960003-GU
Filed: January 16, 1996

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF
FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY'S
PURCHASED GAS COST RECOVERY FACTORS

Florida Public Utilities Company ("the Company"), by and through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to the requirements of this docket, hereby petitions the Commission for approval of the Company's purchased gas cost recovery factors for the period April, 1996 through March, 1997. In support thereof, the Company states:

1) The Company is a natural gas utility company within the jurisdiction of this Commission. Its principal business address is:

Florida Public Utilities Company
Post Office Box 3395
West Palm Beach, Florida 33402-3395

2) The name and address of the person authorized to receive notices and communications with respect to this Petition is:

Norman H. Horton, Jr.
Messer, Caparello, Madsen, Goldman & Metz, P. A.
215 S. Monroe St.
Post Office Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

3) Pursuant to the requirements of this Docket, the Company has prefiled the purchased gas cost recovery forms supplied by the Electric & Gas Department in a manner consistent with the Department's instructions.

4) As indicated in the prefiled testimony and schedules, the final true-up amount for the period April, 1994 through March, 1995 is an underrecovery of \$945,255. For the period April, 1995 through March, 1996, the company estimates an overrecovery of \$1,371,194. Based on this data the total net overrecovery to be refunded during the April, 1996 through March, 1997 period is \$425,939. Based upon projected therm sales for April, 1996 through March, 1997, it will be necessary to adjust the recovery factor to refund this overrecovery on the basis of these projections.

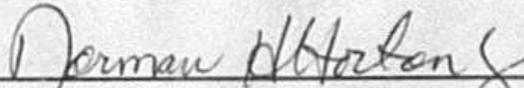
5) The Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Factor for this period will be a maximum of 38.519¢ per therm.

WHEREFORE, Florida Public Utilities Company herewith petitions the Commission to approve the foregoing purchased gas cost recovery factors, to be applied to customer bills for the period April, 1996 through March, 1997, and to billings thereafter until other purchased gas cost recovery factors are approved by the Commission.

DATED this 16th day of January, 1996.

Respectfully submitted,

MESSER, CAPARELLO, MADSEN,
GOLDMAN & METZ, P. A.
Post Office Box 1876
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(904) 222-0720



NORMAN H. HORTON, JR., ESQ.
FLOYD R. SELF, ESQ.

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities
Company

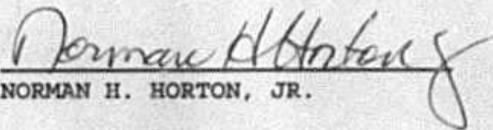
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of Florida Public Utilities Company's Petition for Approval of Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Factors together with accompanying revised schedules and testimony in Docket No. 960003-GU have been served by hand delivery (*) and/or U. S. Mail this 16th day of January, 1996 upon the following:

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