

RUTLEDGE, ECENIA, UNDERWOOD, PURNELL & HOFFMAN

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

Unfiled
FILE COPY

STEPHEN A. ECENIA
KENNETH A. HOFFMAN
THOMAS W. KONRAD
R. DAVID PRESCOTT
HAROLD F. X. PURNELL
GARY R. RUTLEDGE
R. MICHAEL UNDERWOOD
WILLIAM B. WILLINGHAM

POST OFFICE BOX 551 32302-0551
215 SOUTH MONROE STREET SUITE 420
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA 32301-1841

GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANTS
PATRICK R. MALOY
AMY J. YOUNG

TELEPHONE (904) 681-6788
TELECOPIER (904) 681-6515

January 27, 1997

HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 110
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 970003-GU

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-referenced docket on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPU") are the following documents:

1. Original and fifteen copies of the Prehearing Statement of the Florida Public Utilities Company; and
2. A disk containing a copy of the Prehearing Statement.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

William B. Willingham
William B. Willingham

ACK _____
 AFA 1
 APP _____
 CAF _____
 CMU WBW/rl
 cc: All Parties of Record
 CTR _____
 EAG *[Signature]*
 LEG 1
 LIN 3
 OPC _____
 RCH _____
 SEC 1
 WAS _____
 OTH _____

DOCUMENT # _____ DATE

01035 JAN 27 97

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Purchased Gas Adjustment) Docket No. 970003-GU
 (PGA) True-up) Filed: January 27, 1997
 _____)

PREHEARING STATEMENT OF THE
 FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY

Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPU"), by and through its undersigned counsel, submits its Prehearing Statement in connection with the hearing that is scheduled for February 19 through 21, 1997 in the above-styled docket.

A. WITNESSES

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Issues</u>
Bachman	Purchased gas cost Recovery projections, True-ups, and estimate of therm sales	1-5
Schneidermann	Natural gas sales projection, demand and commodity costs, and WACOG	4

B. EXHIBITS

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Witness</u>	<u>Description</u>
_____	Bachman	Schedules, A-1, A-1/R, A-1 flex down, A-1 Supporting Detail A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6 and A-7
GMB-3 (composite)	Bachman	Schedules E-1, E-1/R, E-2, E-3, E-4, and E-5

C. BASIC POSITION

FPU has properly calculated its true-up amounts and projected gas costs. Its costs and projections are reasonable and its purchased gas cost recovery factors should be approved.

DOCUMENTED BY DATE
 01035 JAN 27 97
 FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

D. STATEMENT OF EACH QUESTION OF FACT

ISSUE 1: What is the appropriate final purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period April, 1995 through March, 1996?

FPU's Position: \$1,194,965 under-recovery.

Witness: Bachman

ISSUE 2: What is the estimated purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period April, 1996 through March, 1997?

FPU's Position: \$2,468,967¹ under-recovery.

Witness: Bachman

ISSUE 3: What is the total purchased gas adjustment true-up amount to be collected during the period April, 1997 through March, 1998?

FPU's Position: \$3,663,932 under-recovery.

Witness: Bachman

ISSUE 4: What is the appropriate levelized purchased gas cost recovery (cap) factor for the period April, 1997 through March, 1998?

FPU's Position: 57.569 cents-per-therm.

Witness: Bachman, Schneidermann

ISSUE 5: What should be the effective date of the new purchased gas adjustment charge for billing purposes?

FPU's Position:

The factor should be effective for all meter readings on or after April 1, 1997, beginning with the first or applicable billing cycle for the period April, 1997 through March, 1998.

Witness: Bachman

¹The estimated under-recovery for the period April 1996 through March 1997 assumes that the Commission will approve the Mid-Course Correction that FPU requested in this docket on January 8, 1997.

E. QUESTIONS OF LAW

FPU is not aware of any questions of law that are at issue in the above-styled docket.

F. POLICY QUESTIONS

FPU is not aware of any policy questions that are at issue in the above-styled docket.

G. STIPULATED ISSUES

FPU has not stipulated to any issues in the above-styled docket.

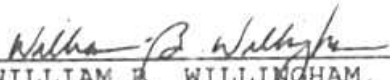
H. PENDING MOTIONS

FPU's Petition for Mid-Course Correction and Requests for Confidential Classification are pending in the above-styled docket.

I. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

At this time FPU is not aware of any requirements set forth in the Order Establishing Procedure with which it cannot comply.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of January, 1997.


WILLIAM B. WILLINGHAM, ESQ.
Rutledge, Ecenia, Underwood,
Purnell & Hoffman, P.A.
P. O. Box 551
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-0551
(904) 681-6788 (phone)
(904) 681-6515 (fax)

Attorneys for Florida Public
Utilities Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY certify that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by United States Mail this 27th day of January, 1997 to:

Robert V. Elias, Esq.
Division of Legal Services
Florida Public Service
Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Gerald L. Gunter Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Joseph A. McGlothlin, Esq.
Vicki Kaufman, Esq.
McWhirter Law Firm
117 S. Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

John W. McWhirter, Jr., Esq.
McWhirter Law Firm
100 N. Tampa St., Suite 2800
Tampa, FL 33602

Michael Palecki, Esq.
955 East 25th Street
Hialeah, FL 33013-3498

Ms. Anne V. Wood
Chesapeake Utilities Corp.
P. O. Box 960
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0960

Mr. Frank C. Cressman
P. O. Box 3395
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3395

Ms. Colette M. Powers
P. O. Box 8
Indiantown, FL 34956-0008

Mr. Jack E. Uhl
P. O. Box 2562
Tampa, FL 33601-2562

Mr. Jerry Melendy
Sebring Gas System, Inc.
3515 U.S. Highway 27 South
Sebring, FL 33870-5452

Mr. J. Peter Martin
South Florida Natural Gas Co.
P. O. Box 69-J
Panama City, FL 32402

Mr. Stuart L. Shoaf
P. O. Box 549
Port St. Joe, FL 32457-0549

Mr. Jeff Householder
West Florida Natural Gas Co.
Caller Box 1460
Panama City, FL 32402

Wayne Schiefelbein, Esq.
Gatlin Law Firm
1709-D Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Ansley Watson
P.O. Box 1531
Tampa, FL 33601-1531

Norman Horton, Jr., Esq.
Messer Law Firm
P. O. Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Office of Public Counsel
111 W. Madison St., #812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

By: William B. Willingham
WILLIAM B. WILLINGHAM, ESQ.