BEFORE THE PLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2 3 DOCKET NO. 970096-EQ In the Matter of 5 Petition for expedited approval: of agreement with Tiger Bay 6 Limited Partnership to purchase: Tiger Bay Cogeneration facility: 7 and terminate related purchased power contracts by Florida Power Corporation. 9 10 11 PREHEARING CONFERENCE 12 PROCEEDINGS: 13 COMMISSIONER DIANE K. KIESLING BEFORE: Prehearing Officer 14 15 DATE: Monday, March 31, 1997 16 Commenced at 1:30 p.m. TIME: 17 Concluded at 2:30 p.m. Betty Easley Conference Center 18 PLACE: Room 148 4075 Esplanade Way 19 Tallahassee, Florida DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE 20 H. RUTHE POTAMI, CSR, RPR 21 REPORTED BY: Official Commission Reporter 22 23

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APPEARANCES:

SEFF FROESCHLE, Post Office Box 14042,
St. Petersburg, Florida 33733-4042 and CHRIS
COUTROULIS, Carlton Fields Ward Emmanuel Smith &
Cutler, P.O. Box 3239, Tampa, Florida, appearing on
behalf of Florida Power Corporation.

PATRICK E. WIGGINS, Wiggins & Villacorta,
P. A., Post Office Drawer 1657, Tallahassee, Florida
32302, appearing on behalf of Tiger Bay Limited
Partnership.

VICKI GORDON KAUPMAN, McWhirter Reeves

McGlothlin Davidson Rief & Bakas, P.A., 117 South

Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, appearing
on behalf of Florida Industrial Power Users Group.

MAROLD McLEAN, Associate Public Counsel,
Office of Public Counsel, 111 West Madison Street,
Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, appearing
on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida.

LORNA WAGNER, Florida Public Service

Commission, Division of Legal Services, 2540 Shumard

Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870,

appearing on behalf of the Commission Staff.

ALSO PRESENT:

BRUCE MAY, Holland & Knight

PROCEEDINGS

(Hearing convened at 1:30 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'll call the prehearing conference to order and ask Staff to please read the notice.

MS. WAGNER: Pursuant to notice dated
February 10th, 1997, this time and place has been set
for prehearing in Docket 970096-EQ, petition for
expedited approval of agreement with Tiger Bay Limited
Partnership to purchase Tiger Bay cogeneration
facility and terminate related purchased power
contracts by Florida Power Corporation.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: And I'll take appearances.

MR. COUTROULIS: Chris Coutroulis, Carlton Fields, on behalf of Florida Power Corporation.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Okay. I found your name on the list. Thank you.

MR. WIGGINS: Patrick A. Wiggins and Donna
L. Canzano, Wiggins, Villacorta, Post Office Drawer
1657, Tallahassee, 32302, on behalf of Tiger Bay
Limited Partnership.

MR. MRY: Bruce May with the law firm of
Holland & Knight representing Vastar Gas Marketing.
COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Are you aware that I

1	denied your petition to intervene?
2	MR. MAY: Yes, I am, Commissioner. I just
3	wanted to make the appearance.
4	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. You're here.
5	MS. KRUPHAN: Vicki Gordon Kaufman, the law
6	firm of McWhirter Reeves McGlothlin Davidson Rief &
7	Bakas, 117 South Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, 32301.
8	I'm appearing on behalf of the Florida Industrial
9	Power Users Group.
LO	MR. McLEAN: And I'm Harold McLean, Office
11	of the Public Counsel, 111 West Madison Street,
12	Tallahassee, Florida 32399, appearing on behalf of the
13	citizens of the state of Florida.
14	MS. WAGNER: Lorna Wagner and Cochran
15	Keating on behalf of Commission Staff.
16	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Are
17	there any preliminary matters that we need to discuss?
18	MS. WAGNER: Yes, there is.
19	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Go ahead.
20	MS. WAGNER: Florida Power Corporation filed
11	a motion for a preliminary prehearing conference to
12	establish issues to be determined in this docket.
3	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Well, I guess since
4	we're here and this is not the preliminary, that

25 that's kind of gone by the wayside now, so I guess

1	it's moot.
2	MR. COUTROULIS: That's fine, your Honor. I
3	assume we'll deal with the issues today.
4	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Anything else
5	preliminary?
6	MS. WAGNER: No; that is all. Thank you.
7	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Anyone else have any
8	preliminary matters?
9	MR. PROESCHLE: Commissioner, I would also
LO	like to enter my appearance. Jeff Proeschle on behalf
11	of Florida Power.
12	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: You're not on my
13	list.
14	MR. FROESCHLE: I have not entered any
15	written appearances. I'm appearing on behalf of the
16	Company because Mr. Fama couldn't be here today.
17	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Because he was down
18	in circuit court?
19	MR. PROESCHLE: Pardon?
10	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: I said, because he
11	was down in circuit court.
12	MR. FROESCHLE: I believe that's correct.
13	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Would you spell your
4	name for me then, please?
	MP. PROPECHIE: F-R-O-E-S-C-H-L-E, and my

first name is Jeff.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And are you going to be appearing for other purposes in this proceeding, at the hearing or anything?

MR. FROESCHLE: At the present time I believe my appearance will be limited to today, but it's possible it could be on other occasions.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Okay. Then anything preliminary from Florida Power?

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, we would like to at some appropriate point during the hearing today take up the matters raised in our motion for preliminary conference that related to whether or not certain issues that have been proposed by FIPUG are appropriate issues in the context of this proceeding.

I know that Staff counsel has put together a draft prehearing statement and Staff is taking the position on some of those as well. Whatever you would prefer in terms of taking those up.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: We'll be going through this issue by issue, so when we get to the issues you want to talk about, you'll have an opportunity.

MR. COUTROULIS: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Mr. Wiggins, any

1	preliminary matters?
2	MR. WIGGINS: No, ma'am.
3	MS. KAUFMAN: No, Commissioner.
4	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Mr. McLean?
5	MR. McLEAN: None, Commissioner. Thank you.
6	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then let's go ahead
7	and take up the draft prehearing order, and I'm
8	working from the draft dated March 31, '97. I hope
9	everyone else is, too.
10	In terms of the case background, is there
11	anything anyone feels the need to add, change or deal
12	with?
13	MS. WAGNER: Yes, there is. Commissioner
14	Kiesling, in the prehearing case background, the last
15	sentence that says "Vastar Gas Marketing, Inc.'s VGM
16	petition for leave to intervene is pending
17	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Well, that
18	order went out earlier today, so
19	MS. WAGNER: I'll make that note.
20	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: you can make that
21	correction.
22	MS. WAGNER: Thank you.
23	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Were copies of the
24	order distributed to the parties here today so that
25	they don't have to wait until it comes in the mail?
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1	MS. WAGNER: No. I had a copy faxed to
2	Vastar Gas Marketing, and I believe Pat Wiggins on
3	behalf of Tiger Bay also has a copy of it. I'm not
4	aware if other parties do at this point.
5	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, if they want
6	to see a copy of it, it's only a page long. So I'm
7	sure that you could get a hold of one today before you
8	leave. Anyone else have anything to change in the
9	case background? (No response)
10	If not, Order of Witnesses; FPC, you have
11	two witnesses?
12	MR. COUTROULIS: That's correct.
13	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And the issue
14	numbers do correspond to the issues that we're going
15	to be dealing with in here?
16	MR. COUTROULIS: Yes, Commissioner.
17	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Then if
18	we strike any issues or whatever, it will be up to you
19	to just make sure that the numbers get updated.
20	MR. COUTROULIS: Yes.
21	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Tiger
22	Bay, any change to your witness?
23	MR. WIGGINS: No, ma'am.
24	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And FIPUG, anything
25	from you?

MS. KAUFMAN: No, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Mr. McLean, you're
not going to call any witnesses?

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And then you're calling the same witnesses on rebuttal as you do on direct. Are we going to take rebuttal and direct at the same time, or do we want to split them in the usual way?

I mean, the only people I would think that would be definitely affected would be FIPUG and Tiger Bay. Do you have a problem with us taking direct and rebuttal at the same time?

MR. WIGGINS: I certain have no problem with that. Our witness submitted only direct, so I'm indifferent.

MS. KAUFMAN: We have no objection to taking the direct and rebuttal together. It might expedite the hearing.

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, I think our preference would be to reserve the right to have separate rebuttal. The issues do overlap, but we have submitted specific rebuttal testimony going very specifically to points raised in the intervenor's testimony, and I think we would like to reserve that

right, if we could, to do it in that fashion. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. 2 MR. COUTROULIS: Thank you. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: We can do it that 4 way. Under the basic position, I would like to thank 5 Florida Power for shortening your basic position to something that was basic, and so I assume that there 7 are no further changes or corrections to yours as set 8 9 forth? MR. COUTROULIS: No. 10 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Tiger Bay, any 11 changes or corrections to your basic position? 12 MR. WIGGINS: No, Commissioner. 13 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: FIPUG? 14 MS. KAUPMAN: No, Commissioner. 15 MR. McLEAN: None. Thank you. 16 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And, Staff, you have 17 your usual preliminary position, so I assume there's 18 19 no change to that. MS. WAGNER: There's no change. Thanks. 20 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then we'll go ahead 21 and start on the issues. What I'll do is I'll just 22 call out the issue number, and then if anyone has a 23 change or correction, an objection to the issue as

25 | it's worded or anything, we'll take them up starting

with Florida Power and moving across the table, and that way I don't have to call on you each time. 2 On Issue 1, any change to the wording of the 3 issue? Any argument that we need to hear on that? (No response.) Any changes to the parties' positions as set forth? (No response.) 6 All right. Then Issue 2, any problems? (No 7 response.) Hearing none, 3? This is going to be 8 9 easy. MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, on Issue 10 3 it appears that all the parties are in agreement. 11 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Either that 12 or have no position. 13 MS. WAGNER: Yes. 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Is this an issue 15 that we can reach any kind of a stipulation on, then, since there's no difference in the parties' positions? 17 FIPUG since you have no position, I guess you don't 18 19 care. MS. KAUFHAN: We have no position, so 20 however you want to it. We're not agreeing or 21 disagreeing with the statement that's there. 22 MR. McLEAN: And the same is true for us; 23 yes, ma'am. 24

I was going to

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes.

ask if OPC was going to take the usual no position on 2 its no position. MR. MCLEAN: Yes, ma'am. 3 COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Then that comes down 4 to FPC, Tiger Bay. Any --5 MR. WIGGINS: I think we should stipulate. 6 It would allow at least my witness on his summary to 7 eliminate a portion of the text. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what I'm 9 aiming for. Florida Power? 10 MR. COUTROULIS: We're fine. 11 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That means you'll 12 stipulate that Florida Power Corp has provided adequate assurances regarding the financial viability 14 of the Tiger Bay generating facility? 15 MR. COUTROULIS: Yes. 16 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's the 17 18 stipulation? MR. COUTROULIS: Yes. 19 COMMISSIONER EIESLING: And do you want all 20 the additional information that you have in your 21 position as part of that stipulation, or simply a 22 stipulation as to the overall ultimate issue? 23 MR. COUTROULIS: I think a simple 24

stipulation would be fine, Commissioner.

MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, Staff would like to have the stipulation read as Tiger Bay 2 sets forth in its position. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. That's 4 acceptable, too, if it is to --5 MR. COUTROULIS: That's acceptable. 6 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Then 7 Issue No. 3 will be "as stipulated". Issue No. 4? 8 MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, Issue 9 No. 4 could also be stipulated to. All the parties 10 are in agreement. Staff would propose that we use 11 Staff's wording on this issue. 12 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, let me see if 13 I understand. There is no disagreement that Florida 14 Power Corp's fuel price forecast in this case is 15 reasonable, but you want the additional sentence in 16 there that suggests that Staff is not precluded from 17 analyzing other fuel price forecasts? 18 MS. WAGNER: That is correct. 19 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, I guess I'm --20 why do you need that? 21 MS. WAGNER: I'm sorry? 22 COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Why do you need that 23 other sentence? I mean, this case is this case --24

MS. WAGNER: Because there's other fuel

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1	price forecasts that are reasonable that Staff uses
2	that have bands or widths, whereas the one that
3	Plorida Power Corp proposes is just a I believe, a
4	single point in time. Is that is a base case, and
5	for that reason Staff does not want to be precluded
6	when it does its sensitive studies to just that one
7	forecast.
8	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: When it does its
9	sensitivity studies in this case?
10	MS. WAGNER: That's correct.
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. I thought you
12	were trying to reserve somehow have it not be
13	precedent for some other case, and that's what I
14	couldn't understand.
15	Okay. Well, now that I understand that, is
16	that position and stipulation acceptable to Florida
17	Power and Tiger Bay?
18	MR. COUTROULIS: One second please. (Pause)
19	It's acceptable.
20	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right.
21	Mr. Wiggins?
22	MR. WIGGINS: It's acceptable.
23	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: We have a
24	stipulation, then, on Issue 4.
	Temps & anything on that one that we need

1	to talk about? I would only suggest that on Issue 5
2	that we insert between the word "expenses" and the
3	word "reasonable" the words "for the Tiger Bay
4	facility, " just because I thought that it tied it to
5	this case. Any problem with that?
6	MR. COUTROULIS: No.
7	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then assuming
8	there's no changes to anyone's position, Issue 6?
9	MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, I'm
10	sorry. Could we go back one moment to Issue 5?
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Sure.
12	MS. WAGNER: Where you have inserted "the
13	Tiger Bay facility," Staff feels that it should read
14	"the Tiger Bay generating facility."
15	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. That's fine,
16	too.
17	MS. WAGNER: Thank you.
18	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: How about on Issue
19	Control Contro
20	MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner Kiesling, I'm
21	sorry to interrupt, but I was a little confused. On
22	Issue 2, do we have any stipulation on Issue 2, or was
23	the stipulation simply on Issue 3?
24	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Stipulation was
25	simply on Issue 3, although it does appear that
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Issue 2 is one that could potentially have a stipulation as well, depending upon where Staff is with its discovery.

MS. WAGNER: Staff just received some interrogatories and requests for production of documents that we're in the process of reviewing. Staff feels that they may have some additional questions, so at this point in time we cannot stipulate to this issue. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: In that case, if prior to the hearing you are able to stipulate, just contact the parties and make sure that we make that clear for the hearing.

MR. WIGGINS: Commissioner, on Issue 5,
Staff has no pending further discovery. So there are
two issues where they have pending further discovery.
When discovery is complete and Staff has decided
whether their answer is yes or no, will you let the
parties know?

MS. WAGNER: Yes, we will.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: But on Issue 5,
we've already stipulated that one, so you've already
looked at the discovery and are happy with it; is that
right?

MS. WAGNER: No. We did not stipulate to

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1	Issue 5.
2	COMMISSIONER MIESLING: Oh, you're right.
3	I'm sorry. I was looking at 4. My apologies. All
4	right. Then Issue 6, is this one that can be
5	stipulated? No?
6	MS. WAGHER: No, Commissioner Kiesling. A
7	lot of the problem with these issues where we have
8	pending the further discovery is that we have just now
9	received some of the documents that we requested.
10	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 7, any change
11	to the issue or to the positions?
12	MR. WIGGINS: Commissioner, it might be
13	useful if we inserted for Tiger Bay "no," before
14	"adopt position of FPC," simply make it
15	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: I'm sorry. In Issue
16	7?
17	MR. WIGGINS: Yes, ma'am. We simply adopt
18	FPC's position, but it occurs to me it might be more
19	readable if I just put "no," period, "adopt the
20	position of FPC."
21	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Okay.
,,	MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, we could

24 parties agree with Staff's proposed position. COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Okay. Let's poll

reach a stipulation on Issue 7 provided that the

them and see. Florida Power, stipulation on 7 as to 2 | Staff's position? MR. COUTROULIS: One second. (Pause) It's 3 4 fine. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And Mr. Wiggins? 5 MR. WIGGINS: Fine. 6 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Ms. Kaufman? 7 MS. KAUPMAN: Commissioner Kiesling, we 8 would have to have the caveat in there, obviously, "assuming that the transaction is approved as 10 proposed." If it is, we don't have a problem with it 11 being recorded to that account. 12 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 13 MR. McLEAN: The same as Ms. Kaufman. 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Can you add that, 15 then, into the stipulation and make it a stipulation on the whole thing then with Staff's position plus 18 that caveat? MS. WAGNER: Yes, we can. Thank you. 19 COMMISSIONER EIESLING: And do you need any 20 clarification on what that caveat was again? MS. WAGNER: I believe the Staff position 22 should now read, "No. If approved, the termination 23 payment should be recorded in Account 182.3, Other

25 | Regulatory Assets."

1	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Is that acceptable?
2	MS. EAUFMAN: That's fine, Commissioner.
3	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Great. Issue 8.
4	Everybody says no but Staff, so I guess we're going to
5	litigate that one.
6	Issue 9, any changes? (No response.) Issue
7	10, any changes? (No response.) Any argument, any
8	discussion?
9	MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, I'm sorry.
10	Could 9 be stipulated?
11	MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, Issue 9
12	cannot be stipulated for the same reasons; we're
13	pending further discovery and development of the
14	record.
15	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And for all of those
16	that we're saying that to, as soon as you are able to
17	analyze the discovery, if we are in a position to
18	stipulate, we can make that modification before the
	hearing?
20	MS. WAGNER: Yes. Staff will do that.
21	Thank you.
22	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 10? (No response.)
	11, changes, stipulations? (No response.) 12? (No
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24	response.)
25	WP COUPROULTS: On 12 Commissioner.

Florida Power agrees with the position of Staff, that this is not an issue that should be approved and that the issue is subsumed within Issue 13.

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commissioner EIESLING: And I guess by that you're indicating that if the Commission approves it, then it is prudent. I mean, because we won't approve one that is not prudent?

NR. COUTROULIS: I understand, Commissioner.

No, but our position would further be when one considers what the nature of this petition is, that the nature of the petition is to approve the termination of these power purchase agreements, the purchase of the facility and the recovery of the costs associated with that purchase.

It's not a prudency determination in the same sense as one would have if this were new capacity and new energy that was being proposed for construction. These PPAs have already been approved by the Commission for cost recovery purposes.

This capacity and energy is already part of FP&L's system in the sense that these are long-term power purchase agreements, and so our position would be, in the first place, this Issue 12 really doesn't add anything that 13 doesn't; and in the second place, that Issue 13 better states what the issue is in the

context of this specific petition.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Whose issue is this? 2 MS. KAUPMAN: It's FIPUG's issue, 3 Commissioner; and I think we'd have to respectfully disagree with Florida Power Corp's counsel. I think that any action that the Utility takes that requires it to collect funds from the ratepayers is measured by 7 a standard of prudency. I think that it's very 8 important that this be a separate issue and that the 9 Commission be guided by that standard when it takes a 10 look at this transaction. 11

The following issue I do not think subsumes the question of whether the action the Company wants to take is prudent. And then we would like to see Issues 12 and 13 remain as separate issues.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Anyone else have anything to add on that?

MR. McLEAN: Yes, ma'am. Citizens agree with FIFUG.

MR. WIGGINS: Tiger Bay. Just to balance out the disagreement here, it seems to me that the issue is redundant. I do not know how you answer "Should the Commission approve the purchase agreement" as essentially being in the public interest without exploring the issue of prudence.

For me the issue -- for me, it's a traditional kind of war we have as to how many issues we're going to have, how precise they're going to be or how general they're going to be. If I look at the set of things that Issue 13 takes into account and I look at the set of things that Issue 12 takes in account, I don't see much difference. So it seems to me to be redundant, and that FIPUG and the OPC will have adequate opportunity to present their arguments before the Commission with Issue 13.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: When you say you don't see much difference, what difference do you see?

MR. WIGGINS: It's possible that Issue 13 could -- and I'm not sure -- it's like trying to say there's nothing in that set that wouldn't be in Issue 12. There might be something else, but Issue 12 would certainly be lesser included in that set; and so therefore FIPUG and OPC would have ample ability to make their argument.

I think what drives due process here is the ability of a party to fairly and squarely put before the agency head the point it wants to have resolved; and if FIPUG or OPC could not do that through Issue 13, I would be saying leave the issue on prudency in even though I may not like it; but I think that they

can under Issue 13, so I would opt for eliminating the 2 | redundancy.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Staff, what do you have on it?

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MS. WAGNER: Staff would adopt Mr. Wiggins' position for Tiger Bay regarding this issue, and Staff would also like to add that because FPC is the one seeking affirmative relief here, that they must demonstrate that this transaction is in the public interest -- is in the best interest of the general body, and Staff feels that Issue 12 is subsumed within Issue 13.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And what is it you think you will not be able to litigate under Issue 13 if 12 is not here?

MS. KAUFMAN: Commissioner Kiesling, I disagree with Mr. Wiggins. I think that the way the issues are framed set the stage for the Commission as they listen to testimony, and I think -- I was discussing this with somebody earlier -- we could just have one issue and get rid of all of these and say, should the transaction be approved.

We think that the standard of prudency is 24 one that the Commission needs to take a hard look at in the magnitude -- in a transaction that is the

magnitude of this one; and, therefore, we think that it's very important that that standard be a separate issue so that the Commissioners and all the parties are aware that that's the guideline that we're following in this case.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Ordinarily, I'm one that tries to narrow issues whenever possible, but I agree with what Ms. Kaufman just said that, I mean, we could do away with all the issues and just have one issue of should it be approved and say everything is subsumed within that.

particular area of determining whether something is in the good of the general body of -- in the best interests of the general body of ratepayers, I'm going to let them leave that one in, since that's one they want to particularly focus on, not because I think that it's not -- isn't one of those things we would consider in Issue 13, but because I'm going to allow them to place some emphasis on that particular aspect of what's in Issue 13. So I'm going to leave it as it is.

And then does Staff have any change that it would wish to make to its position based on -- because your position up to now was just a recommendation that

we not keep this issue in, but since we are, do you have a position?

MS. WAGHER: Staff would then like the position to read as following: "No position at this time pending further discovery."

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And does anyone else have anything that they want to make any change in their positions then? (No response.) Okay.

Issue 13, any change, any agreement? (No response.) Okay. 147

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, we had a question. There's some language between Issues 13 and 14, kind of a segue into the next set of issues that's proposed, I think by Staff, that says "Pending approval of the purchase agreement of the Tiger Bay facility, the following issues will be considered."

And I guess we had a question of Staff why that was inserted in there.

proceeding as such. Is it just the logical flow that the initial issue is whether or not the purchase is in the public interest, and assuming it is in the public interest, whether the recovery is also in the public interest?

The only point I would like to register for

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Plorida Power is, we've proposed this as an integrated arrangement, as an integrated buyout that has, as an integral part, the recovery of the purchase costs in the manner that we've explained in our prefiled testimony; and I had a question about why this sentence was in there.

correctly -- and Staff you can help me to make sure I understand -- essentially what you're saying is more in the nature of assuming approval of the purchase agreement, then we would also need to take evidence and be able to resolve the method of recovery, so that is an integral part of this case, but that the issues are just being broken out for those that go to the approval and those that go to cost recovery -- or method of recovery. Is that essentially it?

MS. WAGNER: That is correct.

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, we have no dispute whatsoever with the categorizing of the issues as Staff has done into approval of purchase agreement, and then I think this next set is method of recovery. That doesn't present any problem.

This, though, is kind of a lead-in sentence into the next set of issues. I don't think it appears anyplace else in the stipulation. I don't mean to

belabor this point, but I was a little -- we were a little unclear as to why that's here.

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testimony in an integrated fashion. The termination of the PPAs, the purchase of the facility, and the recovery of the purchase price as proposed in the transaction are all part of a unified piece, and we had a question whether this was suggesting that they were bifurcated in some fashion other than the logical delineation of the different categories that already exists in the document. For example, where it says Method of Recovery, we have no problem with that.

I can clarify this. While you view it as one body, it is also within the Commission's discretion to approve the purchase agreement but designate some other method for recovery. I mean, that is still an area that we have to make some decisions on, and so these issues are set forth in here to make sure that the parties recognize they must put on evidence to support their respective positions on those matters, because it's -- it all is part of one application by Florida Power to have the purchase agreement approved and have your proposed method for recovery approved as part of that; but in fact we can approve the agreement and not

approve your method of cost recovery, in which case 2 you would need to decide if you want to go forward with the purchase then. So that's, I think, more in the nature of what we're trying to delineate there, and --

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner if it is going to stay in -- and I understand what you've explained -- it seems to pick up on Issue 13, and I would suggest that it would perhaps be better if it read, "Pending approval of the purchase agreement of the Tiger Bay facility," and then add the words "and the termination of the related purchased power agreements, " because those are the two issues that Issue 13 picks up, and it would seem that those issues would be first resolved before we got into method of recovery. I don't know if Staff has any problem with that.

MS. WAGNER: Staff feels that it would be appropriate to add "and the termination of the PPAs," so the whole sentence would read as follows: "Pending approval of the purchase agreement of the Tiger Bay facility -- excuse me -- Tiger Bay generating facility and the termination of the PPAs, the following issues will be considered."

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Okay. So we're

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going to insert after the word "Bay," the word "generating," and then after the word "facility," the 2 phrase "and the termination of the PPAs." 3 KS. WAGNER: That is correct. 4 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And is that --5 anyone else have a problem with that? 6 MS. KAUFMAN: We have no objection. 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then moving into 8 Issue 14, does this need to be reworded in any way, or 9 has it been, to clarify that distinction? 10 MS. WAGNER: Staff needs to change their 11 position on Issue 14. We have a correction. Staff's 12 position, the second sentence of it should be 13 stricken -- is it the third -- excuse me. The third 14 sentence should be removed, and the position should 15 read as follows: "No, pending further discovery, Florida Power Corporation has not shown how it will calculate the fuel cost after termination of the PPAs. 18 Moreover, the post-acquisition costs of the Vastar 19 contract are higher than natural gas supply prices and 20 Florida Power Corporation's most recent natural gas price forecast." 22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You're going a whole 23 lot faster than I can write.

MS. WAGNER: Oh. Sorry.

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1	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Have you committed
2	any of these changes to writing so that everybody has
3	them?
4	MS. WAGHER: No, I just received it right as
5	we were walking in here, and I apologize for that.
6	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's fine. Just
7	go a little slower then, so we all can write it down.
8	"Moreover, comma
9	MS. WAGNER: "Moreover," comma, "the
10	post-acquisition
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Oh, the
12	post-acquisition. Okay. I thought you said proposed
13	acquisition, and that's why I was really lost. Okay.
14	Go slower. "Moreover, the post acquisition costs
15	MS. WAGNER: "Of the Vastar gas contract are
16	higher than natural gas supply prices in Florida Power
17	Corporation's most recent natural gas price forecast.
18	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And I should delete
	the word "much" before "higher"?
20	MS. WAGNER: That's correct.
21	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And then remove the
22	words "the cost of the coal-fired energy on which the
23	PPAs are based."
24	MS. WAGNER: That is correct.
	COMMISSIONER EIESLING: Okav. Everybody

clear on that change in position? I'm still looking at the actual wording of Issue 14, and I had noted in the margin that it might need rewording, because I had trouble following it. So has it been reworded since the first draft that I looked at?

MS. WAGNER: No, it has not.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Oh, okay. I think probably inserting that language up above helped clarify it, then. Okay.

Any change in anyone else's position on Issue 14? (No response.) All right. How about Issue 15? (No response.) No changes? 16? 17? 18? (No response.) 19?

MS. WAGNER: Staff has a change in its position on Issue 19. I'm going to read the whole position. I will stop you when I need to strike the certain word and insert the other one.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay.

"Yes. Revenues pursuant to the stream -- excuse me -steam sales agreement with US Agri-Chemicals
Corporation should be -- we would like to strike
"recovered" and insert the word "credited".

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And then continue

25 | on?

MS. WAGNER: "Should be credited through the fuel and purchase power cost recovery clause." Staff was also going to say that on this position it appears that all the parties are in agreement, and if the parties would agree to use Staff's wording, this issue could be stipulated.

MR. COUTROULIS: That's fine.

MS. KAUFMAN: Well, again, we'd need to have our caveat language, "assuming the transaction is approved" in some form. I think that's how we've stated our position.

MR. WIGGINS: Of course that's up there before you ever get to this.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: What?

MR. WIGGIMS: Isn't that the discussion we just had a few minutes ago about --

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, if we're going to stipulate, the stipulation is going to be, "Yes.

Revenues pursuant to the steam sales agreement with US Agri-Chemicals Corporation should be credited through the fuel and purchase cost recovery clause. So any problem with adding their caveat "if approved"?

MS. WAGNER: Staff has no problem. We will add it, and so the position would read, "Yes. If approved, revenues pursuant to the steam sales

agreement with US Agri-Chemicals Corporation should be credited through the fuel and purchased power cost recovery clause." 3 MS. EAUFMAN: That's fine. Thank you. 4 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And, Mr. McLean, is 5 that okay with you? 6 MR. McLEAN: Yes, ma'am. 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Issue 20 has been 8 withdrawn or something, hasn't it? Something has 9 happened to Issue 20, hasn't it? MS. WAGNER: No, Commissioner Kiesling. 11 We've, I guess, structured the issues since the first 12 time that you viewed it and have put it under certain 14 headings. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. So Issue 20 15 is still in, and are there any changes to either the 16 wording or anyone's position on 20? (No response.) 17 21, any changes? (No response.) All right. 22, 18 nothing from anyone? 19 MS. WAGNER: Staff would like to recommend 20 21 that this issue not be approved. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 22 MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, Florida Power 23 would disagree with that. We've submitted testimony 24 that speaks specifically to this issue. While Staff

may ultimately disagree with the substance of that, we believe it's an appropriate issue here and one that relates directly to what we've proposed and would ask that it remain as an issue as stated.

MS. WAGNER: Commissioner Kiesling, Staff would respond to Florida Power Corporation's comments in that while we understand their concerns that they have some latitude to manage the collection of the purchase price or the amortization periods, Staff believes this position within this issue could also be subsumed within Issues 16, 17, 20 and 21 of this draft prehearing order. In those issues, 16, 17, 20 and 21, the amortization period is discussed.

If Florida Power Corporation feels the necessity to argue that they have the latitude to manage their amortisation period over their collection of the purchase price over the amortisation period, staff believes that would be the appropriate place to place their arguments.

COMMISSIONER EXESLING: All right. Then

I'll ask you the same questions that I asked FIPUG
earlier. What would you not be able to litigate under

Issues 16, 17, 20 and 21 that you will be able to

litigate if 22 is left in?

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, 16, 17 and

the other ones that were referenced could be construed as broad enough to pick this up, but this is a rather specific point that is the subject of some very specific testimony.

In the prefiled testimony we presented base case assumptions. We presented some sensitivity analyses. In Mr. Scardino's testimony, he presents a spreadsheet that deals very specifically with Issue 22. I think he presents a scenario where the beginning of the commencement of recovery of the purchase price is delayed for some period of time, and then he shows that as by way of example as to one of the things Florida Power may do to manage this thing.

It's not so much a question that it couldn't be presented, but the issues that Ms. Wagner refers to are general issues that go to the guts of the transaction; and this is a rather specific issue about the right to go ahead and make some modifications within guidelines along the lines set forth in testimony.

a specific issue, it becomes a little unclear in the context of those broader general issues what this testimony would be offered for. It's not something that's in the nature of the basic transaction itself,

but is instead something that specifically relates to latitude and how that might play out and, as I said, is the subject of some specific testimony.

We think, given its different nature from the basic thrust of the other financial analyses that are shown, that it makes sense to delineate it as a separate issue.

commissioner RIESLING: I think I'm going to grant you the same latitude that I did FIPUG on its prudency issue. While I think that you could argue that it is included within the others, since it's an area that you wish to provide some specific emphasis on, I'm going to permit it to stay in there, so that the other Commissioners in preparing for this know to focus on that. That having been concluded, does Staff have a position?

MS. WAGNER: Yes, Staff does. Staff's position should read "No, pending further discovery."

commissioner RIESLING: All right. Anyone else have any changes then? (No response.) 23? This is one I was kind of unclear about where it came from and what it is we're getting at, so maybe someone -- I don't know whose issue it is.

ME. KAUFMAN: This is FIPUG's issue, Commissioner. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Could you help me?
MS. KAUFMAN: I'd be glad to try.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Because one of my concerns is that I'm not even sure what rate shock is. So when you start throwing in terms like that, I don't know how we litigate it.

what we were thinking of with this issue, and then maybe we can work on the wording of it.

My client's concern, and the reason that this issue was proposed, as I think I've already mentioned, this is a very, very significant transaction with a lot of dollars at stake and, at least according to Mr. Falkenberg, the first transaction of this type that he's ever seen in the United States.

It's going to have a significant impact on customers' rates if it's approved in the way that it's been proposed. When you take that and you add that on top of the significant increase that's already occurred as a result of the fuel adjustment proceedings we concluded related to the Crystal River 3 outage, we are just very concerned that this is an incredible increase to be seeking, and we have testimony to that point. Mr. Falkenberg has

done an analysis of these requests compared with prior rate base proceedings of Florida Power.

I understand some of the parties are concerned, and people have said that the term "rate shock" is pejorative and biased, et cetera. What we were really thinking of or looking toward was Section 366.061, which is a charge to the Commission anytime they change rates there's a number of factors they have to consider, and one of those is the public acceptance of the rates.

would be glad to reword the issue to take out what some people have called the pejorative term and to include the statutory reference instead. That's where we're going; is this increase beyond the bounds of normalcy. And we think that that issue is very pertinent and relevant to this case, something the Commission needs to consider when they look at the transaction and they view it in light of other recoveries that they've recently approved for this Company.

COMMISSIONER EIESLING: Anyone else have anything they want to say on it?

MR. COUTROULIS: Yes, your Honor. On behalf of Florida Power Corporation, we do not believe this

is a proper issue in this docket. In the first place, if you look at FIPUG's proposed answer that relates to the impact on rates of Crystal River 3, which doesn't have anything to do with this docket, which is -- raises the question of whether this Tiger Bay transaction ought to be approved, we did some research on the term "rate shock," and I understand that FIPUG is now saying that they would be willing to change that term.

But rate shock as it appears to be used in a number of cases -- and I can certainly cite some both by this Commission and other commissions -- deals with a sudden, very abrupt rate increase, and you've got to look at each case to see what the magnitude is. I can't represent that there is a definition as such, but the cases appear to be talking about on the order of 15, 20% very commonly. I saw one case involving TECO here that involved 50%.

The testimony that has been presented here
and -- I don't believe this is contested -- is that if
this transaction were approved in the manner that
Florida Power says it ought to be approved, the impact
on rates would be in the range of 2 to 3%.

Now, without question, the issue of whether the transaction is in the public interest is very much

an issue that's going to be litigated. Clearly FIPUG
is going to argue what the impact is on rates and will
make an argument that -- as they have, that they don't
believe that type of arrangement is in the public
interest. That's already all over these issues.

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constitutes rate shock in the face of testimony that we're talking 2 to 3% when that term is not used to cover such a situation, and specifically when they talk about something that has nothing to do with this proceeding, namely the Crystal River 3, we think is inappropriate; and we think the elimination of this issue will not in any way negatively impact on their ability to argue that the proposal for the recovery of the purchase costs in their view is not appropriate and for Florida Power to argue that it is appropriate.

The only other thing I would note is for Office of Public Counsel. The draft here that Staff has prepared says that their answer is "yes," and at least my service copy of their individual prehearing statement said "no," and I'm not sure if they changed their position.

MR. COUTROULIS: Yes. For Office of Public Counsel, the draft that we're looking at has as their

position, "yes," and the individual prehearing statement that they served on the various parties, I believe, said "no". Now, maybe that was a typographical error on their part, but I wanted to clarify what their position is.

MS. WAGNER: I received from the Office of
Public Counsel a change in their preliminary
statement, and I made that correction, and then I
called the parties, and when I faxed it to them, they
all agreed that that was correct.

MR. COUTROULIS: Okay. I'm sorry. I wasn't aware of that. Thank you.

so their position is "yes". Well, in any event, Commissioner, we don't think this is a proper issue for the reasons I've stated.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And on this one I agree with you and with Staff, and I'm going to delete Issue 23. It doesn't preclude you from making your argument under the other issues, but I don't think that it's one that needs to be focused on or that it's necessarily all that you have in here as part of this case.

and I can tell you that I feel the same way on Issue 24, so I'm not even going to take argument on 24. I'm going to delete it, and I'm going to also

1	delete Issue 25 if that's yours, also, FIPUG.
2	MS. KAUPHAN: Yes, ma'am.
3	MR. McLEAN: Commissioner, you deleted 24,
4	did I hear you say?
5	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes.
6	MR. McLEAN: Thank you, ma'am.
7	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I deleted 24, 25
8	23, 24, 25, and I'm looking at 26.
9	MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, I believe
LO	Issue 26 was proposed by Vastar.
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay.
12	MR. COUTROULIS: And we would submit that in
13	light of the order, it should be omitted.
14	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes. I'm going to
15	delete 26, also. And then 27 is fine the way it is, I
16	would assume.
17	Exhibits; any changes, corrections,
18	deletions to Mr. Dolan's exhibits?
19	MR. COUTROULIS: No, ma'am.
20	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Mr. Scardino's?
21	MR. COUTROULIS: No, ma'am.
22	COMMISSIONER RIESLING: Or Mr. Falkenberg's?
23	MS. KAUPHAN: No, Commissioner.
14	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And I take it there
	were no exhibits to the rebuttal testimony.

MR. COUTROULIS: That's correct.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And we do now have stipulations on those issues that we just discussed that we have stipulated, so we'll include those within the stipulations? Yes?

MS. WAGNER: Yes.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. And I denied oral argument, and ruled on Vastar's petition for leave to amend. We've dealt with the motion for preliminary prehearing conference. Is there -- well, I do have a couple of other things. I just want to make sure. Do the parties have any doubts about the amount of time that is set aside for this hearing in terms of being adequate to complete it?

MR. WIGGINS: In fact, I was wondering whether the parties thought it would be makeable to complete it in one day.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's always nice, but I'm more concerned when we run out of time than I am when we have too much time.

MR. WIGGINS: I'm an optimist.

MR. COUTROULIS: We think the time is adequate. We may be able to do it more quickly, but 24 we think the two days is certainly sufficient.

MS. KAUFMAN: We agree.

when we get closer, and if you are able to reach stipulations on some of the other issues that Staff is looking at now via the discovery, and it does appear that we can do it in one day because if we do reach those stipulations, just make sure that we all know that so that we can plan our calendars accordingly. There's quite a demand on our time right now and any extras, we've got at least three things who want it.

Are there any other matters that need to be taken up before we conclude this prehearing conference?

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, I just wanted to indicate that we do have a couple of motions that we filed seeking confidential treatment of certain documents pursuant to the procedures that are specified here. I don't know that there's objection to those motions. One relates to the --

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Let me just ask
Staff what the status of them is, since I'm not even
aware of them right now.

MS. WAGHER: I've received two motions for requests for confidentiality. I've not yet received the recommendation from Staff. As soon as we receive that recommendation, I will present to you our

thoughts on it.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. But are we all making an effort to get this out kind of a little bit expedited so that -- because the hearing is coming up?

MS. WAGNER: Yes, we are.

COMMISSIONER RIESLING: And I think they need to know what's going to be confidential and what isn't.

just been informed by Staff that we will have that issue resolved before the hearing and very quickly. We'll do it on an expedited basis.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay.

MR. COUTROULIS: Commissioner, so there's no misunderstanding, the motion, the latest motion we filed for confidentiality, was in connection with some requests for production by Staff; and in our responses I believe we indicated as for requests 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 we would seek confidential status of some documents.

In reviewing our motion we argue the basis for that. I don't believe we delineated as clearly as we might have that the motion related to 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8. It does, and I hope that was understood, and I apologise if it wasn't. But I think if you look at

the responses to the requests, you will see that we indicated that we would seek confidential status on 2 those numbers, and the motion itself does make the argument for those numbers, but I don't believe it specifies each and every one of those numbers. 5 MS. WAGMER: Staff was under the impression 6 that it only related to 7 and 8. But what we can do 7 so we don't take up any more of the time here is, we can get together, and after we'll sit down and go over 10 it. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. You all 11 straighten that out. Is there anything else 12 preliminary from anyone? (No response.) 13 Okay. We'll get this prehearing order out 14 and go to hearing. 15 MR. McLEAN: Thank you, Commissioner. 16 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Thank you. 17 (Thereupon, the hearing concluded at 2:30 18 19 p.m.) 20 21 22 23 24 25

STATE OF PLORIDA) CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER COUNTY OF LEON I, H. RUTHE POTAMI, CSR, RPR Official 3 Commission Reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the Prehearing Conference in Docket No. 970096-EQ was heard by the Prehearing Officer at the time and place herein stated; it is further CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported 7 the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript, consisting of 47 pages, constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings and the insertion of the prescribed prefiled testimony of the witness. 10 11 DATED this 2nd day of April, 1997. 12 13 H. RUTHE POTAMI, CSR, RPR 14 Official Commission Reporter 15 (904) 413-6732 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24