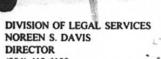
State of Florida





(904) 413-6199



April 22, 1997

Division of Administrative Hearings Clerk of the Court 1230 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32399

> Case No. 96-5834 - Francisco Mesa, Petitioner, vs. Florida Power & Light Re:

> > Sincerely,

Company, Respondent.

Dear Sir:

CAF CMU ____ CTR ____ EAG ____ LEG ___ LIN _ OPC RCH SEC WAS

HTE

Commissioners:

JOE GARCIA

SUSAN F. CLARK

J. TERRY DEASON

DIANE K. KIESLING

JULIA L. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the Florida Public Service Commission's Motion for Leave to Intervene in the above case. Please date stamp the additional copy and return in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Thank you.

	Ville De Anson
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FA	Vicki D. Johnson Senior Attorney
PP	Sellor Attorney

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FRANCISCO MESA,)		
Petitioner	}		
V8.) CASE	NO.	96-5834
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY	{		
Respondent.	{		

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

The FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Commission), by and through its undersigned counsel, requests that the Administrative Law Judge grant leave to intervene in the above-styled cause for the reasons set forth below.

- 1. This case was initiated by the filing of a complaint with the Commission by Francisco Mesa against Florida Power & Light Company (FPL). Mr. Mesa complained that he was unjustifiably charged with current diversion by FPL.
- 2. By Notice of Proposed Agency Action, Order No. PSC-96-1333-FOF-EI, issued November 5, 1996, the Commission found that FPL's billing of the Mesa account is appropriate.
- On November 26, 1996, Mr. Mesa timely filed a protest to the Commission's proposed action.
- 4. On December 10, 1996, the Commission referred this matter to the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH) to conduct a formal hearing. Section 120:569(2)(a), Florida Statutes, states that once a case is referred to DOAH the "referring agency shall take no further action with respect to the formal proceedings, except as a

party litigant," as long as DOAH has jurisdiction over the formal proceeding.

- 5. FPL supplies electricity to the public and is therefore, a public utility as defined in Section 366.02(1), Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Section 366.04(1), Florida Statutes, the Commission has exclusive jurisdiction "to regulate and supervise each public utility with respect to its rates and service." Thus, the Commission has exclusive jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding, and therefore, has an interest in the proceeding.
- 6. The Commission is neither an adversary to, nor advocate for, either party. Pursuant to Chapter 366, Florida Statutes, the Commission's primary duty is to protect the public interest.
- 7. Rule 25-22.026(3), Florida Administrative Code, provides that the Commission staff may participate as a party in any proceeding.
- 8. According to Rule 25-22.026(4), Florida Administrative Code, in cases assigned to DOAH, the Commission staff's primary role is to represent the public interest and be neither in favor of or against either party. The rule states that staff is to assist in developing evidence to ensure that all relevant factual, legal and policy issues are presented to the fact-finder. The rule further states that staff's final positions are to be based upon review of the complete record.
- 9. The Commission has been granted intervention in similar cases that have been referred to DOAH. See for example, <u>Blanca Rodriguez v. Florida Power & Light Company</u>, Case No. 96-4935; <u>Thomas L. Fuller v. Florida Power Corporation</u>, Case No. 95-4253; <u>Globe</u>

International Realty & Mortgage corporation v. Florida Power & Light Company, Case No. 95-2514; Jory Bricker v. Florida Power Corporation, Case No. 93-5713; Janet Knauss v. Florida Power & Light Company, Case No. 91-4910; Larry Timm v. Florida Power & Light Company, Case No. 91-2755, Arturo Toboado v. Florida Power & Light Company, Case No. 91-0331.

WHEREFORE, the Florida Public Service Commission respectfully requests that its Motion for Leave to Intervene be granted and the Commission be allowed to intervene in these proceedings while reserving its statement of position pending the evidence developed at the hearing.

Respectfully submitted this 200 day of April, 1997.

VICKI D. JOHNSON, Esquire Florida Bar No. 986471

Florida Public Service Commission Gerald L. Gunter Building 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399 (904) 413-6199

COPIES FURNISHED:

Mayra Trinchett, Esquire 42 Northwest 27th Avenue Suite 323 Miami, Florida 33125

Armando Santana, Esquire 3780 West Flagler Street Miami, Florida 33134 Florida Power & Light Company Robert E. Stone, Esquire Post Office Box 029100 Miami, Florida 33102

Kay Flynn Chief, Bureau of Records FL Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399