

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Capital Circle Office Center # 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

JULY 2, 1997

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYO) ^{10:45} ^{JUL 02 1997} ^{FPSC Records/Reporting}

FROM: DIVISION OF ELECTRIC & GAS (GOAD) ^{RG} ^{OK}
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (KEATING) ^{WOK} ^{RVE} ^{JDJ}

RE: DOCKET NO. 970677-EI - GULF POWER COMPANY - PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO SHEET NO. 6.1, 6.14, 7.24, ii AND iii OF RETAIL TARIFF REGARDING RATE SCHEDULE BB, BUDGET BILLING (FORMERLY LB, LEVELIZED BILLING) (OPTIONAL RIDER), BY GULF POWER COMPANY.

AGENDA: JULY 15, 1997 - REGULAR AGENDA - TARIFF FILING - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: 60-DAY SUSPENSION DATE: AUGUST 4, 1997

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: S:\PSC\EAG\WP\970677EI.RCM

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission approve Gulf Power Company's (Gulf) modifications to its optional levelized billing rate schedules, Tariff Sheet Nos. ii, iii, 6.1, 6.14, and 7.24?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, the Commission should approve Gulf's proposed changes to its levelized billing rate schedules. The proposed modifications will facilitate the implementation of a new customer service system and will not have any significant effect on any customer subscribing to the levelized billing plan.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The Southern Company (Southern) is in the process of implementing a new customer service system (CSS) to provide customer accounting and billing for all of its subsidiaries, including Gulf. In order to reduce operating expenses for the system, Southern is attempting to implement one set of billing procedures for all five operating companies. The CSS was originally scheduled to be available on February 1, 1997. On October 2, 1996, Gulf petitioned the Commission to approve modifications to its levelized billing plan. The modifications were made to facilitate the implementation of the CSS. The Commission approved Gulf's petition in Order No. PSC-96-1480-FOF-

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

06651 JUL-25

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EI. However, Southern is still developing the new system and has yet to implement it. The current petition is a request for further modifications to Gulf's leveled billing plan approved in Order No. PSC-96-1480-FOF-EI.

Gulf has now proposed to include outdoor lighting service in the calculation of the monthly billing amount for leveled billing customers. Gulf has also proposed to determine the leveled billing amount on a monthly basis, as opposed to the quarterly basis which was approved in Order No. PSC-96-1480-FOF-EI. The methodology is unchanged from what was approved, only the frequency of the application will change. In addition, Gulf has proposed to change the name of the tariff from Leveled Billing (LB) to Budget Billing (BB). As a result of these changes Gulf has made some clarifications to the previous tariff language.

It is Gulf's intention to utilize Southern's new CSS when it becomes available. Staff does not believe the proposed changes will have any significant effect on any of Gulf's customers including Gulf's budget billing customers. Staff believes the proposed changes are reasonable and recommends that the changes be approved.

ISSUE 2: On what date should the proposed tariff changes become effective?

RECOMMENDATION: If Issue 1 is approved, the proposed tariff changes should become effective August 8, 1997.

STAFF ANALYSIS: Gulf requests that the tariff become effective August 8, 1997. Gulf maintains that this effective date will coincide with Gulf's ability to administer and implement this tariff revision in its billing system.

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ISSUE 3: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. If no substantially affected person files a protest within 21 days from the issuance of the order, this docket should be closed. If a protest is filed within 21 days from the issuance of the order, the tariff should remain in effect, with any increase held subject to refund, pending resolution of the protest.

STAFF ANALYSIS: If no substantially affected person files a protest within 21 days from the issuance of the order, this docket should be closed. If a protest is filed within 21 days from the issuance of the order, the tariff should remain in effect, with any increase held subject to refund, pending resolution of the protest.

State of Florida

Commissioners:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN
SUSAN F. CLARK
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JOE GARCIA
DIANE K. KIESLING



DIVISION OF RECORDS &
REPORTING
BLANCA S. BAYÓ
DIRECTOR
(904) 413-6770

Public Service Commission

June 9, 1997

Susan D. Cranmer, Asst. Secretary & Asst. Treasurer
Gulf Power Company
Post Office Box 13470
Pensacola, Florida 32591-3470

Re: Docket No. 970677-EI

Dear Ms. Cranmer:

This will acknowledge receipt of a petition for approval of proposed revisions to Sheet No. 6.1, 6.14, 7.24, ii and iii of retail tariff regarding Rate Schedule BB, Budget Billing (formerly LB, Levelized Billing) (Optional Rider), by Gulf Power Company, which was filed in this office on June 6, 1997 and assigned the above-referenced docket number. Appropriate staff members will be advised.

Mediation may be available to resolve any dispute in this docket. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to an administrative hearing. For more information, contact the Office of General Counsel at (904) 413-6078 or FAX (904) 413-6079.

Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission