

500 Bayfront Parkway  
Pensacola, FL 32520

Tel 904.444.6000

ORIGINAL FILE COPY



July 29, 1997

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee FL 32399-0870

960835-EI

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification  
The Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc.  
Certificate of Notification - File No. 70-8233

Enclosed for filing in the matter referred to above is the Request for Confidential Classification by Gulf Power Company. This request covers information for the period ending December 31, 1996.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me.

Please mark the enclosed extra copy of this letter with the date and time the material was accepted in your office for filing and return same to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

ACK  \_\_\_\_\_  
AFA \_\_\_\_\_  
APP \_\_\_\_\_  
CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
CMU \_\_\_\_\_  
CTR \_\_\_\_\_  
ENG \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosures

*Susan D. Cranmer*

Susan D. Cranmer  
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

lw

cc: Beggs and Lane  
Russell A. Badders, Esquire

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 07695-97. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

RECEIVED & FILED  
EPSC BUREAU OF RECORDS

all to  
*Matilda*

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
07694 JUL 30 1997  
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company  
and Southern Communications  
Services, Inc.  
Certificate of Notification-  
File Nos. 70-8233 under Rule 24  
with the Securities and Exchange  
Commission (SEC) for the  
period ending December 31, 1996

Docket No.: Undocketed  
Date: July 30, 1997

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION**

The Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc., an associate company of Gulf Power Company, by and through its undersigned attorney and pursuant to Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, hereby gives notice that it intends to request confidential classification for certain information, hereafter the Certificate, submitted to the Florida Public Service Commission Staff pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 53(a)(4), C.F.R. §250.53(a)(4). A copy of the Certificate is attached hereto as exhibit "A". Rule 53 requires that every registered holding company submit certain specified categories of filings to each state commission in which the affiliates of the registered holding company operate. Gulf Power is an affiliate of the Southern Company, a registered holding company.

The Certificate contains proprietary and commercially sensitive information regarding the Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc. and certain of its unregulated, non-utility, businesses and investments which would cause irreparable harm to the Companies if disclosed to the general public. A formal request for confidential classification will be filed within

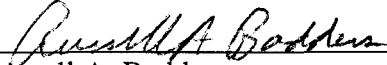
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07694 JUL 30 97

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

the time period specified in Rule 25-22.006(3)(a), Florida Administrative Code, if at such time the Staff determines that the information will be retained by the Commission and not returned to the Companies. This Certificate is the subject of a claim of confidentiality under the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russell A. Badders  
Florida Bar No. 7455  
Beggs & Lane  
Post Office Box 12950  
Pensacola, Florida 32576-2950  
(904) 432-2451  
Counsel for The Southern Company and  
Southern Communications Services, Inc.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was furnished without exhibit "A" by U.S. Mail on the 29th day of July, 1997, on the following:

Richard Bellak, Esq., Esq.  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Russell A. Badders  
Russell A. Badders

Southern Company  
Services, Inc.  
64 Perimeter Center East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30346-6401  
Tel 770.393.0650

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED



*Energy to Serve Your World™*

May 29, 1997

Securities and Exchange Commission  
Washington, DC 20549

Re: *The Southern Company and  
Southern Communications Services, Inc.  
Certificate of Notification - File No. 70-8233  
Request for Confidential Treatment*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Rule 104 under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended, The Southern Company (SOUTHERN), a registered holding company, and Southern Communications Services, Inc. (SOUTHERN COMMUNICATIONS), hereby request confidential treatment of the attached certificate of notification for the period ended December 31, 1996. This certificate contains information which is proprietary and competitively sensitive. The public disclosure thereof would materially harm SOUTHERN and SOUTHERN COMMUNICATIONS.

As permitted by Rule 101(c)(1) of the General Rules and Regulations for Electronic Filings, 17 CFR 232.101(c)(1) the aforementioned confidential information is filed herewith in paper format only.

SOUTHERN hereby requests a hearing before any part thereof is made public to third parties requesting its disclosure.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Boston".

Wayne Boston

Enclosures

cc: Freedom of Information Act Officer (w/enc.)  
Robert Wason, Chief Financial Analyst (w/enc.)