

One Energy Place
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6000

ORIGINAL



September 24, 1997

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

980835-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 Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification by Gulf Power Company. This request covers information for the period ending June 30, 1997.

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

ACK _____ 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.

APP _____ Sincerely,

CAF _____
CMU _____ *Susan D. Cranmer*

CTR _____ Susan D. Cranmer
EAG _____ Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

LEG _____ *tw*

LIN _____
OPC _____ Enclosure

ROM _____ ec: Beggs and Lane
SEC _____ Russell A. Badders, Esquire

WAS _____

OTH _____ RECEIVED & FILED

[Handwritten initials]

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 09864-97. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09863 SEP 25 1997

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company
and Southern Communications Services, Inc.
Certificate of Notification-
File No. 70-8233 under Rule 24
with the Securities and Exchange
Commission (SEC) for the
period ending June 30, 1997

Docket No.: Undocketed
Date: September 25, 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 the time period specified in Rule 25-22.006(3)(a), Florida Administrative Code, if at such time the

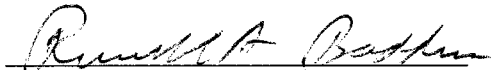
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09863 SEP 25 97

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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,

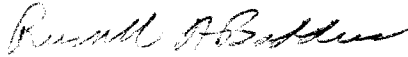


Russell A. Badders
Florida Bar No. 7455
Beggs & Lane
Post Office Box 12950
Pensacola, Florida 32576-2950
(850) 432-2451
Counsel for The Southern Company and
Southern Communications Services, Inc.

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 24th day of September, 1997, on the following:

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



Russell A. Badders