

One Energy Place
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6000



December 3, 1997

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

960835-ET

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification
The Southern Company and Southern Development and Investment Group, Inc.
Certificate of Notification - File No. 70-8173

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.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda G. Malone".

Linda G. Malone
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

lw

Enclosure

cc: Beggs and Lane
Russell A. Badders, Esquire
Gulf Power Company
Susan D. Cranmer

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 12474-97. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12473 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company
and Southern Development and
Investment Group, Inc.
Certificate of Notification-
File No. 70-8173 under Rule 24 with the
Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
for the quarter ending June 30, 1997 /

Docket No.: Undocketed
Date: December 4, 1997

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION

The Southern Company and Southern Development and Investment Group, 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 Development and Investment Group, Inc. ("Companies") 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 the Staff determines that the information will be retained by the Commission and not returned to the Companies within the specified time period. This Certificate

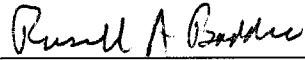
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12473 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

is the subject of a claim of confidentiality under the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully submitted,



JEFFREY A. STONE

Florida Bar No. 325953

RUSSELL A. BADDERS

Florida Bar No. 007455

Beggs & Lane

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Attorneys for Gulf Power Company