

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-EE

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification
The Southern Company - Filing of Quarterly Report of Form U-9C-3 to the
Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

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 quarter 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. 12477-97. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12477 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company
Form U-9C-3 under Rule 104
with the Securities and Exchange
Commission (SEC) for the
period ending June 30, 1997

Docket No.: Undocketed
Date: December 4, 1997

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION

The Southern Company and Gulf Power Company, by and through their undersigned attorney and pursuant to Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, hereby gives notice that they intend to request confidential classification for Form U-9C-3 for the period ending June 30, 1997, submitted to the Florida Public Service Commission Staff pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 104. A copy of Form U-9C-3 for the period ending June 30, 1997, is attached hereto as exhibit "A". Rule 104 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 Company is an affiliate of the Southern Company, a registered holding company.

Form U-9C-3 for the period ending June 30, 1997, contains proprietary and commercially sensitive information regarding the Southern Company and certain of its unregulated, non-utility, businesses and investments which would cause irreparable harm to the Southern Company 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 Staff determines that the information will be retained by the Commission and not returned to the Southern Company. Form U-9C-3 for the period ending June 30, 1997, is the subject of a claim of

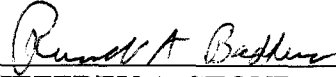
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12477 DEC-56

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

confidentiality under the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully submitted,



JEFFREY A. STONE

Florida Bar No. 325953

RUSSELL A. BADDERS

Florida Bar No. 007455

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Attorneys for Gulf Power Company