

980001

ORIGINAL

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF TOM BALLINGER

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Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is Tom Ballinger. My business address is 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0850.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am employed by the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) as a Utility Systems/Communication Engineer Supervisor for the Bureau of System Planning/Conservation and Electric Safety.

Q. Please describe your educational and professional background.

A. In April of 1985, I graduated from the Florida State University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Since June, 1985, I have been employed by the FPSC. From the beginning of my career, I have been involved with various utility regulatory issues such as power plant and transmission line need determinations, operation and maintenance expenditures, rate cases, performance incentives, reliability criteria, and other issues relating to conservation and system planning. I have also been involved with the non-utility side of regulation with such things as purchased power contract approval, need determinations for qualifying facilities, and competitive bidding. I have provided comments on proposed rules and sponsored testimony and recommendations numerous times before the FPSC. In July, 1993, I was promoted to my current position.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. In November of 1997, the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council (FRCC) submitted a Reliability Assessment for Peninsular Florida. As an input to this Assessment, certain assumptions were made regarding the equivalent

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1 | availability of generating units. The purpose of my testimony is to recommend
2 | that the equivalent availability targets filed in the Generation Performance
3 | Incentive Factor (GPIF) be consistent with the values assumed in the
4 | development of the Reliability Assessment.

5 | Q. Why should the values for a long-term reliability assessment be
6 | consistent with a short term target?

7 | A. The values used in the Reliability Assessment are virtually constant
8 | every year of the ten year study period. This means that the values are both
9 | short and long term expectations of unit performance. As such, no reward or
10 | penalty should be imposed if this level of performance is achieved.

11 | Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

12 | A. Yes.

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Fuel and purchased power
cost recovery clause and
generating performance incentive
factor.

DOCKET NO. 980001-EI

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that one true and correct copy of the Direct
Testimony of Tom Ballinger has been furnished by U. S. Mail this
14th day of January, 1998, to the following:

Florida Power Corporation
James McGee
P.O. Box 14042
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Office of Public Counsel
John Roger Howe
111 West Madison Street
Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Beggs & Lane
Jeffery Stone
P.O. Box 12950
Pensacola, FL 32576

Suzanne Brownless
1311-B Paul Russell Road, #201
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Florida Public Utilities Co.
Frank Cressman
P.O. Box 3395
W. Palm Beach, FL 33402

Destec Energy, Inc.
Barry Huddleston
2500 CityWest Blvd.
Houston, TX 77210

Gulf Power Company
Susan Cranmer
One Energy Place
Pensacola, FL 32520

FL Industrial Power Users Group
McWhirter Reeves McGlothlin
Vicki Gordon Kaufman
117 South Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Rutlege Law Firm
Ken Hoffman
P.O. Box 551
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Steel Hector & Davis
Matthew Childs
215 South Monroe Street
Suite 601
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tampa Electric Company
Angela Llewellyn
Regulatory & Business
Strategy
P.O. Box 111
Tampa, FL 33601

Ausley & McMullen
James Beasley
Post Office Box 391 Tallahassee,
FL 32302



LESLIE J. PAUGH
Staff Counsel

Florida Public Service Commission
Gerald L. Gunter Building
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 413-6199