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January 16, 1998

Ansley Watson, Jr.
P.O. Box 1531
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VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records & Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 971618-00 -- Petition for modification of Rider WNA (Weather Normalization Adjustment) to provide for maximum adjustment to customers' bills, by Peoples Gas System, a division of Tampa Electric Company

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above docket on behalf of Peoples Gas System, please find the original and 15 copies of Peoples' Amendment to Petition. The original petition was filed in the above docket on December 15, 1997.

I also enclose a diskette containing the Amendment to Petition in Wordperfect 5.1 format.

ACK _____ Please acknowledge your receipt and the date of filing of the enclosures on the duplicate
copy of this letter and return the same to the undersigned in the enclosed preaddressed envelope.

ASA _____ Thank you for your assistance.

CMH _____

CJB _____

Sincerely,

Ansley Watson, Jr.
ANSLEY WATSON, JR.

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AWjr/a
Enclosures

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[Signature]

MSF _____

OTH _____

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
January 16, 1998
Page 2

cc: Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Esquire, Division of Legal Services
Mr. Joseph W. McCormick

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for modification :
of Rider WNA (Weather Normalization :
Adjustment) to provide for maximum :
adjustment to customers' bills, by :
Peoples Gas System, a division of :
Tampa Electric Company :
_____ :

DOCKET NO. 971618-GU

Submitted for Filing:
1-20-98

AMENDMENT TO PETITION

Peoples Gas System, a division of Tampa Electric Company ("Peoples"), by its undersigned attorneys, in order to clarify the facts stated in its Petition filed herein on December 15, 1997, hereby amends said Petition as hereinafter set forth. Paragraph 7 of the Petition is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

7. Peoples believes it can continue to develop valuable information with respect to the manner in which this experimental rider operates and effects customers' bills for service, but is mindful of the impact on the bills of individual customers. Accordingly, Peoples seeks a modification to Rider WNA to limit the increase to any residential customer's bill in any revenue month to \$10.00 during the 1997/1998 winter. Peoples will calculate the adjustment that would have been made to each customer's bill as if the \$10.00 maximum on the adjustment had not been imposed, but will limit the actual increase in any bill in any month to a maximum of \$10.00. The Weather Normalization Adjustment mechanism will continue to be applied without modification in calculating and adjusting residential customers' bills for decreases due to colder than normal weather. This provides customers a one-year opportunity to benefit from potential downward adjustments to balance any upward adjustment applied last year, while the

Company forgoes its right to recover positive adjustments above the \$10.00 limit. After the 1997/1998 winter heating season, the maximum adjustment, whether increase or decrease, will be subject to the \$10.00 limit. During the winter of 1996/1997 (November 1996 through April 1997), for those customers who had adjustments greater than \$10.00, West Florida made weather normalization adjustments to 5,003 customer bills totaling \$72,830.01. Of that amount, the portion of the individual adjustments exceeding \$10.00 on any single month's bill was \$22,800.01. Total Rider WNA revenues for the 1996/1997 heating season were \$404,309.29. Of that total, \$212,210.53 was attributable to adjustments to bills of customers in Panama City, and \$192,098.76 to bills of customers in Ocala.

DATED this 16th day of January, 1998.

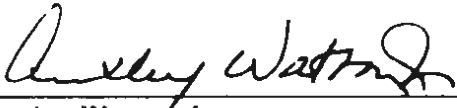
Respectfully submitted,



Ansley Watson, Jr.
Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen
P. O. Box 1531, Tampa, Florida 33601
(813) 273-4200
Attorneys for Peoples Gas System, a
division of Tampa Electric Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing Amendment to Petition has been furnished via Federal Express this 16th day of January, 1998, to Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Staff Counsel, Division of Legal Services, Florida Public Service Commission, Capital Circle Office Center, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850.



Ansley Watson, Jr.