



March 10, 1998

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

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Docket No. 980329-EG

Enclosed are an original and fifteen copies of Gulf Power Company's Petition for Waiver of Rule 25-17.006(3), F.A.C.

Sincerely,

Linda G. Malone
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

ACK _____

AFA _____

APP _____ *hw*

CAF _____ Enclosure

CMH _____

CTC _____ cc: **Beggs and Lane**
Jeffrey A. Stone, Esquire

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: Request for waiver of Rule
25-17.006(3), F.A.C., by Gulf Power
Company

)
) Docket No. 980329-EG
) Filed March 11, 1998
)
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**GULF POWER COMPANY'S
PETITION FOR WAIVER
OF RULE 25-17.006(3), F.A.C.**

GULF POWER COMPANY ("Gulf Power", "Gulf", or "the Company"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Chapter 120.542, Florida Statutes (1997), hereby petitions the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) for waiver of the filing deadline set forth in Rule 25-17.006(3), Florida Administrative Code. As grounds for the relief requested by this petition, the Company would respectfully show

Notices and communications with respect to this petition and docket should be addressed to:

Jeffrey A. Stone
Russell A. Badders
Beggs & Lane
P. O. Box 12950
Pensacola, FL 32576-2950

Susan D. Cranmer
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer
Gulf Power Company
One Energy Place
Pensacola, FL 32520-0780

(1) Gulf is a corporation with its headquarters located at 500 Bayfront Parkway, Pensacola, Florida 32501. The Company is an investor-owned utility operating under the jurisdiction of this Commission.

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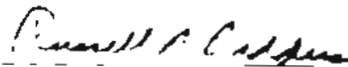
(2) Gulf is required by Rule 25-17.006(3), F.A.C. to report residential KWH consumption data by March 1st of each calendar year for the preceding calendar year. By a letter dated February 24, 1998, Gulf informed the Commission that it was unable to meet the March 1st deadline. A waiver of Rule 25-17.006(3) is requested to allow Gulf to file the requested data on April 1, 1998.

(3) The reason Gulf is unable to file the residential KWH consumption data is that in October 1997, Gulf converted its existing billing system to the new Customer Service System (CSS). The CSS supplies data to the reporting database used to gather the information utilized by the Company to meet the requirements of Rule 25-17.006(3). The complexity of the reporting database has resulted in Gulf having to create a new report to extract the data necessary to fulfill the filing requirements of Rule 25-17.006(3). An extension of the filing deadline to April 1, 1998, will allow time for the creation of the new report and the gathering of the necessary data.

(4) The rule is to provide for the periodic submission of certain conservation information, including the residential KWH consumption data, to the Commission. Allowing the brief extension requested herein serves the underlying purpose of Rule 25-17.006(3) and the statutes which are implemented by Rule 25-17.006(3). The information required by the rule will be submitted to the Commission and the Commission will have that information with only a minimal delay. A one month extension of time with full compliance at the end of the extension should have no adverse impact on the Commission or any party interested in the information.

WHEREFORE, Gulf Power Company respectfully requests the Commission to approve a waiver of Rule 25-17.006(3) to allow Gulf until April 1st 1998 to submit its residential KWH consumption data to the Commission

Respectfully submitted the 10th day of March, 1998



JEFFREY A. STONE

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