One Energy Place Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6000

ORIGINAL



April 22, 1998

960835-EI

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: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification The Southern Company Form U-9C-3 under Rule 104 with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for the period ending December 31, 1997

Enclosed for filing in the matter referred to above is the Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification by Gulf Power Company.

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, Jusan D. Cranmer ACK AFA APP Susan D. Cranmer Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer CAF CMU _____ lw CTR ____ Enclosures EAG ___ LEG _____ Beggs and Lane CC: Russell A. Badders, Esquire LIN OPC _____ RCH ____ RECEIVED & FILED SEC WAS ____ FESCHEREN OF RECENSES DTH

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 04595 - 98. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT DARDER-DATE DI 594 APR 24 8 TOPP- FOR US/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 December 31, 1997

Docket No.: Undocketed Date: April 23, 1998

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 December 31, 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 December 31, 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 December 31, 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 December 31, 1997, is the

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Aunt Abalan

JEFFREY A. STONE Florida Bar No. 325953 RUSSELL A. BADDERS Florida Bar No. 007455 Beggs & Lane P. O. Box 12950 (700 Blount Building) Pensacola, FL 32576-2950 (850) 432-2451 Attorneys for Gulf Power Company