

One Energy Place
Pensacola, Florida 32520

Tel 850.444.6000



April 22, 1998

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

960835 - EI

Dear Ms. Bayo:

RE: Notice of Intent to Request Confidential Classification
The Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc.
Certificate of Notification - File No. 70-8233

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 period ending December 31, 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,

Susan D. Cranmer

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMU _____
- CTR _____
- EAG _____
- LEG _____
- LIN _____
- OPC _____
- RCH _____
- SEC _____
- WAS _____
- OTH _____

Susan D. Cranmer
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

lw

Enclosures

cc: Beggs and Lane
Russell A. Badders, Esquire

RECEIVED & FILED

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

This Notice of Intent was filed with Confidential Document No. 04597-98. The document has been placed in the confidential files pending receipt of a request for confidential treatment.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

04596 APR 24 88

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: The Southern Company
and Southern Communications Services, Inc.
Certificate of Notification-
File No. 70-8233 under Rule 24
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 Southern Communications Services, Inc., an associate company of Gulf Power Company, by and through its undersigned attorney and pursuant to Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, hereby gives notice that it intends to request confidential classification for certain information, hereafter the Certificate, submitted to the Florida Public Service Commission Staff pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 53(a)(4), C.F.R. §250.53(a)(4). A copy of the Certificate is attached hereto as exhibit "A". Rule 53 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 is an affiliate of the Southern Company, a registered holding company.

The Certificate contains proprietary and commercially sensitive information regarding the Southern Company and Southern Communications Services, Inc. and certain of its unregulated, non-utility, businesses and investments which would cause irreparable harm to the Companies 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

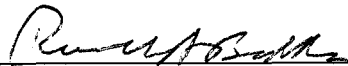
DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

04596 APR 24 88

REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

Companies. This Certificate is the subject of a claim of confidentiality under the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully submitted,



JEFFREY A. STONE

Florida Bar No. 325953

RUSSELL A. BADDERS

Florida Bar No. 007455

Beggs & Lane

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Attorneys for Gulf Power Company