



# Public Service Commission

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## -M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

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**DATE:** November 5, 1998

**TO:** DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (RESC)

**FROM:** DIVISION OF ELECTRIC & GAS (HARLOW) <sup>10/27/98</sup>  
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (JAYE) <sup>10/27/98</sup>

**RE:** DOCKET NO. 981253-EG - PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL DAYLIGHT DIMMING RESEARCH PROJECT BY FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

**AGENDA:** 11/17/98 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

**CRITICAL DATES:** NONE

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** NONE

**FILE NAME AND LOCATION:** S:\PSC\EAG\WP\981253EG.RCM

### CASE BACKGROUND

On November 18, 1996, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-96-1366-POF-EG in Docket No. 930817-EG which approved Florida Power and Light Company's (FPL) Commercial/Industrial Daylight Dimming Research Project. The purpose of the Daylight Dimming project is to field test the performance of daylight dimming technology, particularly with respect to electrical energy and demand savings. FPL also expects to determine the potential acceptance of the technology by end-users in the research project. The Commission ordered that FPL's expenditures for the project be capped at \$377,000 over the 20 months from the date of Commission approval. Further, FPL was required to file a project summary report with the Commission detailing the results of the research project after the project's completion.

On October 2, 1998, FPL petitioned the Commission to extend the Commercial/Industrial Daylight Dimming Research Project through August, 1999. FPL has also requested recovery of reasonable and prudent expenditures for the project through the Energy

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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Conservation Cost Recovery Clause. FPL has not requested recovery of expenditures beyond the approved \$377,000 cap.

**DISCUSSION OF ISSUES**

**ISSUE 1:** Should the Commission grant Florida Power and Light Company's (FPL) petition to extend its Commercial/Industrial Daylight Dimming Research Project through August, 1999?

**RECOMMENDATION:** Yes. A substantial portion of the project is completed. It appears that the reasons for the delay are reasonable and beyond the company's control. Further, FPL has not requested that costs in addition to the already approved \$377,000 be recovered through the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause (ECCR).

**STAFF ANALYSIS:** Daylight dimming systems constantly adjust the electric lighting level based on the amount of daylight available. In theory, electrical demand and energy may be saved by reducing the electrical input into the lighting fixture. Savings may also occur from reduced air conditioning load as a result of lower heat gain from the controlled lighting equipment.

The purpose of FPL's Daylight Dimming research project is to collect data on the performance and market potential of the daylight dimming technology. FPL will use the data and information to determine whether to incorporate a permanent daylight dimming measure into FPL's commercial and industrial DSM programs.

The primary components of FPL's Daylight Dimming research project include: (1) the installation of daylight dimming equipment in two office buildings; (2) monitoring the electrical power usage of the lighting system and the air conditioning system, and the light levels within these test sites; and (3) a market survey to determine potential customer acceptance of a daylight dimming program.

FPL collected pre-retrofit data from the two test sites from October, 1997 through June, 1998. As of September, 1998, FPL had installed the daylight dimming equipment in the two test sites. FPL is currently collecting data from the sites to compare energy and demand usage with the daylight dimming equipment installed to the pre-retrofit data. FPL expects to complete data collection from the two sites by April, 1999. The final report is expected to be completed by an outside contractor by July, 1999.

The project was originally expected to be completed by July 1998. However, FPL experienced delays in the installation of daylight dimming equipment in the two original test sites. In particular, a delay was caused when the owners of one of the office buildings chosen as a demonstration site declined to participate. A further delay was caused when the owners of the new site decided to replace the building's windows.

According to FPL, as of September, 1998, total actual expenditures for the project have been \$178,488. The total Commission-approved budget for the project is \$377,000. FPL has not requested recovery of expenditures in excess of \$377,000 through the ECCR clause.

Staff recommends that the Commission grant FPL's petition to extend its Commercial/Industrial Daylight Dimming Research Project through August, 1999, because: (1) a substantial portion of the project is completed; (2) the reasons for the delay appear to be reasonable; and, (3) no additional costs beyond the already approved \$377,000 are being requested for recovery. Approving additional time for the project will allow FPL to complete end-use data collection. FPL is also required to file a project summary report with the Commission detailing the results of the research project following completion of the project.

**ISSUE 2:** Should this docket be closed?

**RECOMMENDATION:** This docket should be closed if no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within the 21-day protest period.

**STAFF ANALYSIS:** Pursuant to Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, any person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action shall have 21 days after the issuance of the order to file a protest. If no timely protest is filed, the docket should be closed.