

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF STAFF WORKSHOP

TO

ALL ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITIES

AND

ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: UNDOCKETED - REVIEW OF REGULATED UTILITIES' YEAR 2000  
PREPARATIONS AND READINESS (ELECTRIC AND GAS)

ISSUED: March 5, 1999

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission will conduct a workshop, in the above-referenced matter, to which all persons are invited, at the following time and place:

9:30 a.m., Monday, March 29, 1999  
Room 171, Betty Easley Conference Center  
4075 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, Florida

Wednesday, March 31, 1999, has also been reserved to hear further from those companies that fail to adequately address the issues set forth in this notice at the March 29, 1999, workshop. If found necessary, the March 31, 1999, workshop will begin at 1:00 p.m., and will be conducted in Room 171, Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida.

PURPOSE

These workshops are intended to provide a forum for each electric utility and investor-owned natural gas utility to make a presentation to explain in detail how it is testing and remediating both mainframe computers and microprocessors (embedded chips) to make them year 2000 compliant and to discuss its overall readiness for the year 2000. One or more Commissioners may be present at these workshops. If these workshops do not generate adequate

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information concerning the issues set forth in this notice, a docket may be opened to address this matter.

Attached to this Notice is a list of questions and topics that each company should be prepared to discuss at the March 29 workshop. Each company should file written responses to these questions on or before March 24, 1999. In its responses, each company may address any additional matters that it believes are relevant. Responses should be filed with the Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850.

Any person requiring some accommodation at this workshop because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (850) 413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the workshop. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction is vested in this Commission pursuant to Chapter 366, Florida Statutes. The workshop will be governed by the provisions of that Chapter and Chapters 25-6, 25-7, 25-17, 25-22, and 28-106, Florida Administrative Code.

By DIRECTION of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 5th day of March, 1999.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Kay Flynn*  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records

( S E A L )

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**Year 2000 Readiness Workshop**  
**Questions for all Electric Utilities and Natural Gas Utilities**

**March 29, 1999 - 9:30 a.m.**  
**Florida Public Service Commission**  
**Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 171**  
**4075 Esplanade Way**  
**Tallahassee, Florida**

1. Has your utility bifurcated its Year 2000 remediation efforts between "mission critical" and "important" systems?
2. If your utility has bifurcated its remediation efforts, what functions (e.g., safety, generation, customer billing, accounting, payroll) make up the "mission critical" category? What functions make up the "important" category? Please describe how you distinguish between "mission critical" and "important" systems.
3. Has your utility prioritized its "mission critical" systems? If so, please provide the priority listing.
4. What method are you using to test your mainframe computers? Please describe this method.
5. What systems do you have running on mainframe computers?
6. What "mission critical" systems are not run on mainframe computers?
7. What systems have you found that contain date-sensitive embedded chips?
8. Are embedded chips being tested both as a stand-alone device and as part of an integrated system? If not, why?
9. Are all "mission critical" related mainframe computers, PC computers, and embedded chips being tested notwithstanding any vendor's or manufacturer's claim that the device is year 2000 compliant? If not, why?

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10. Are you conducting sampling tests instead of testing all of your systems? If you are conducting sampling tests, please describe the methodology you are using and explain how and why you selected this methodology.
11. What precautions are you taking to ensure that "mission critical" communications links are not interrupted? Will these precautions be detailed in your contingency plan?
12. What dates, in addition to the millennium rollover, are being tested? Why?
13. Has your utility conducted or scheduled any contingency drills? If so, please indicate the purpose of each drill.
14. What "mission critical" systems and locations will be manned during the millennium rollover? Will these assignments be detailed in your contingency plan?
15. What is your company's internal deadline for testing and remediating the following:
  - (1) mainframe computers?
  - (2) PC computers?
  - (3) embedded chips on a system integration basis?
16. What tests are you conducting to ensure that "non-mission critical" operations, which may not be Year 2000 compliant, will not inadvertently affect "mission critical" operations?
17. For Florida Power & Light and Florida Power Corporation:

Please describe the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's requirements to ensure nuclear power plants are Year 2000 compliant. What steps is your company taking to ensure its nuclear power plants will be Year 2000 compliant?
18. For natural gas distribution utilities:

Is your natural gas distribution system SCADA-controlled? If so, can any embedded chip not Year 2000 compliant send an erroneous signal that can lead to an interruption in natural gas delivery?