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TIMOTHY DEVLIN, DIRECTOR
AUDITING & FINANCIAL ANALYSIS
(850) 413-6480

Public Service Commission

March 15, 1999

Ms. Susan D. Ritenour
Gulf Power Company
One Energy Place
Pensacola, FL 32520-0780

Re: Docket No. Undocketed; Gulf Power Company
Audit Request; 1998 Overearnings Investigation

Dear Ms. Ritenour:

The Florida Public Service Commission will conduct an overearnings investigation for the period ended December 31, 1998 in accordance with Commission audit procedures. Access will be requested to documents and records of the utility and, if necessary, supporting records for affiliate company transactions that affect regulated operations. Staff auditors may also request to review the utility's external audit working papers for the most recent independent audit. Rhonda Hicks, (850) 413-6449, the district office supervisor, will coordinate this audit. Questions regarding the audit or audit staff should be directed to the district supervisor or myself. My phone number is 850) 413-6487.

ACK _____ The Audit Access to Records rule for each industry states:

AFA _____

APP _____

CAF _____

CMU _____

CTR _____

EAG _____

LEG _____

LIN _____

OPC _____

RCH _____

SEC 1

WAS _____

OTH _____

In those instances where the utility disagrees with the auditor's assessment of a reasonable response time to the Audit request, the utility shall first attempt to discuss the disagreement with the auditor and reach an acceptable revised date. If agreement cannot be reached, the utility shall discuss the issue with successive levels of supervisors at the Commission until an agreement is reached.

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

03332 MAR 16 99

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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A formal report is expected to be issued for internal Commission use in June 1999. A copy of the final report will be mailed to the company liaison listed in the Commission Mailing Directory.

Sincerely,



Denise N. Vandiver
Bureau Chief - Auditing

DNV:sp

cc: District Office Supervisor
Division of Legal Services
Division of Records and Reporting
Public Counsel