

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Complaint by Allied  
Universal Corporation and  
Chemical Formulators, Inc.  
Against Tampa Electric Company  
for violation of Sections  
366.03, 366.06(2) and 366.07,  
F.S., with respect to rates  
offered under  
commercial/industrial service  
rider tariff; petition to  
examine and inspect confidential  
information; and request for  
expedited relief.

DOCKET NO. 000061-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-00-0392-PCO-EI  
ISSUED: February 23, 2000

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURE AND RESPONDING TO COMPLAINANT'S  
MOTION FOR EXPEDITED RESPONSES TO DISCOVERY REQUESTS

On January 20, 2000, Allied Universal Corporation and Chemical Formulators, Inc. (Allied/CFI) filed a complaint against the Tampa Electric Company (TECO). The complaint alleges that TECO discriminated against Allied/CFI by failing to offer Allied/CFI the same rate offered to a competitor under TECO's Commercial Industrial Service Rider (CISR) Tariff. The complaint also alleges that a TECO employee colluded with the competitor of Allied/CFI in setting rates. Allied/CFI requested that the docket be expedited to minimize damages it is suffering which result from the alleged discriminatory treatment. Accordingly, a hearing is scheduled for April 5, 2000.

This Order is issued pursuant to the authority granted by Rule 28-106.211, Florida Administrative Code, which provides that the presiding officer before whom a case is pending may issue any orders necessary to effectuate discovery, prevent delay, and promote the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of all aspects of the case.

The scope of this proceeding shall be based upon the issues raised by the parties and Commission staff (staff) up to and during the prehearing conference, unless modified by the Commission. The hearing will be conducted according to the provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and all administrative rules applicable to this Commission.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

On February 7, 2000, Allied/CFI filed a Motion for Expedited Responses to Discovery Requests. Allied/CFI asked that TECO respond to its first set of interrogatories and production requests within 15 days of the date of service, instead of the standard 45. Allied/CFI also asked that it be granted leave to take a deposition within 24 days of service of the complaint on TECO, instead of the standard 30 days.

On February 14, 2000, TECO filed its Response to Allied/CFI's Motion for Expedited Responses to Discovery Requests. TECO's position was that Allied/CFI's suggested schedule was unreasonable. TECO further contended that Allied/CFI sought confidential information which TECO should not be required to provide at all. Having considered Allied/CFI's request and TECO's response, I find that discovery responses shall be expedited as set forth in the part of this order that addresses discovery procedures.

Also filed on February 14, 2000, was TECO's Objection and Motion for Protective Order Pertaining to Notice of Deposition and Request for Production. In this filing TECO argues that Allied/CFI seeks to discover confidential information and requests that I issue a protective order to prevent discovery of that information. TECO also states that, if one of its representatives is deposed, TECO will instruct that representative not to answer any questions regarding information that TECO deems confidential. Allied/CFI has not yet responded to this filing. The time for filing a response has not yet run. An order disposing of TECO's motion will be issued after the response period.

### Discovery

When discovery requests are served and the respondent intends to object to or ask for clarification of the discovery request, the objection or request for clarification shall be made within ten days of service of the discovery request. This procedure is intended to reduce delay in resolving discovery disputes.

The hearing in this docket is set for April 5, 2000. Unless authorized by the Prehearing Officer for good cause shown, all discovery shall be completed by March 29, 2000. All interrogatories, requests for admissions, and requests for production of documents shall be numbered sequentially in order to facilitate their identification. The discovery requests will be numbered sequentially within a set and any subsequent discovery requests will continue the sequential numbering system. Pursuant

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to Rule 28-106.206, Florida Administrative Code, unless subsequently modified by the Prehearing Officer, the following shall apply: interrogatories, including all subparts, shall be limited to 100, and requests for production of documents, including all subparts, shall be limited to 100.

In support of its Motion for Expedited Responses to Discovery Requests, Allied/CFI states that the subjects of its first set of interrogatories and production requests are narrow, and an expedited response is needed in order to conduct its future discovery requests, so that it can be prepared for the hearing on April 5. With respect to Allied/CFI's request to conduct a deposition within 24 days of serving the complaint on TECO, Allied/CFI states that testimony from this first deposition is needed only to identify and confirm the existence of documents requested in the first request for production.

Rule 28-106.206, Florida Administrative Code, allows a Prehearing Officer to order expedited discovery responses. Granting the Motion would require TECO's submissions to be made by February 17, 2000, and for the deposition to occur on the same day. The Complaint was mailed to on TECO January 20, 2000, and the discovery requests were hand delivered to TECO on February 2, 2000.

As the complainant, Allied/CFI, bears the burden of proof, Allied/CFI must be prepared to affirmatively prove its case by April 5, 2000. Given the hearing date, I find that discovery should be expedited, but not to the extent requested by Allied/CFI. TECO must be given a reasonable amount of time to respond.

Accordingly, I find that responses to all discovery requests shall be provided within 20 days after service. Given that both Allied/CFI and TECO are represented by local counsel, all requests shall be served via hand delivery. Responses shall be provided via hand delivery or facsimile transmission. TECO shall respond to Allied/CFI's first set of interrogatories and production requests by the close of business on the fifth business day following the issuance of this order. Allied/CFI's request to conduct a deposition on February 17, 2000 in order to obtain testimony on the existence of and identification of the documents is denied. Allied/CFI may conduct a deposition at any reasonable time at least five days after the issuance of this order.

Any information provided pursuant to a discovery request for which proprietary confidential business information status is requested shall be treated by the Commission and the parties as confidential. The information shall be exempt from Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, pending a formal ruling on such request by the Commission, or upon the return of the information to the person providing the information. If no determination of confidentiality has been made and the information has not been made a part of the evidentiary record in the proceeding, it shall be returned expeditiously to the person providing the information. If a determination of confidentiality has been made and the information was not entered into the record of the proceeding, it shall be returned to the person providing the information within the time period set forth in Section 366.093, Florida Statutes.

#### Diskette Filings

See Rule 25-22.028(1), Florida Administrative Code, for the requirements of filing on diskette for certain utilities.

#### Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits

Each party shall prefile, in writing, all testimony that it intends to sponsor. Such testimony shall be typed on 8 1/2 inch x 11 inch transcript-quality paper, double spaced, with 25 numbered lines, on consecutively numbered pages, with left margins sufficient to allow for binding (1.25 inches).

Each exhibit intended to support a witness' prefiled testimony shall be attached to that witness' testimony when filed, identified by his or her initials, and consecutively numbered beginning with 1. All other known exhibits shall be marked for identification at the prehearing conference. After an opportunity for opposing parties to object to introduction of the exhibits and to cross-examine the witness sponsoring them, exhibits may be offered into evidence at the hearing. Exhibits accepted into evidence at the hearing shall be numbered sequentially. The pages of each exhibit shall also be numbered sequentially prior to filing with the Commission.

An original and 15 copies of all testimony and exhibits shall be prefiled with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, by the close of business, which is 5:00 p.m., on the date due. A copy of all prefiled testimony and exhibits shall be served by mail or hand delivery to all other parties and staff no later than the

date filed with the Commission. Failure of a party to timely prefile exhibits and testimony from any witness in accordance with the foregoing requirements may bar admission of such exhibits and testimony.

Prehearing Statement

All parties in this docket shall file a prehearing statement. Staff will also file a prehearing statement. The original and 15 copies of each prehearing statement shall be prefiled with the Director of the Division of Records and Reporting by the close of business, which is 5:00 p.m., on the date due. A copy of the prehearing statement shall be served on all other parties and staff no later than the date it is filed with the Commission. Failure of a party to timely file a prehearing statement shall be a waiver of any issue not raised by other parties or by the Commission. In addition, such failure shall preclude the party from presenting testimony in support of its position. Such prehearing statements shall set forth the following information in the sequence listed below.

- (a) The name of all known witnesses that may be called by the party, and the subject matter of their testimony;
- (b) a description of all known exhibits that may be used by the party, whether they may be identified on a composite basis, and the witness sponsoring each;
- (c) a statement of basic position in the proceeding;
- (d) a statement of each question of fact the party considers at issue, the party's position on each such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;
- (e) a statement of each question of law the party considers at issue and the party's position on each such issue;
- (f) a statement of each policy question the party considers at issue, the party's position on each

such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;

- (g) a statement of issues that have been stipulated to by the parties;
- (h) a statement of all pending motions or other matters the party seeks action upon;
- (i) a statement identifying the parties' pending requests or claims for confidentiality; and
- (j) a statement as to any requirement set forth in this order that cannot be complied with, and the reasons therefore.

#### Prehearing Conference

Pursuant to Rule 28-106.209, Florida Administrative Code, a prehearing conference will be held on March 17, 2000, at the Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida. Any party who fails to attend the prehearing conference, unless excused by the Prehearing Officer, will have waived all issues and positions raised in that party's prehearing statement.

#### Prehearing Procedure: Waiver of Issues

Any issue not raised by a party prior to the issuance of the prehearing order shall be waived by that party, except for good cause shown. A party seeking to raise a new issue after the issuance of the prehearing order shall demonstrate that: it was unable to identify the issue because of the complexity of the matter; discovery or other prehearing procedures were not adequate to fully develop the issue; due diligence was exercised to obtain facts touching on the issue; information obtained subsequent to the issuance of the prehearing order was not previously available to enable the party to identify the issue; and introduction of the issue could not be to the prejudice or surprise of any party. Specific reference shall be made to the information received, and how it enabled the party to identify the issue.

Unless a matter is not at issue for that party, each party shall diligently endeavor in good faith to take a position on each issue prior to issuance of the prehearing order. When a party is unable to take a position on an issue, it shall bring that fact to

the attention of the Prehearing Officer. If the Prehearing Officer finds that the party has acted diligently and in good faith to take a position, and further finds that the party's failure to take a position will not prejudice other parties or confuse the proceeding, the party may maintain "no position at this time" prior to hearing and thereafter identify its position in a post-hearing statement of issues. In the absence of such a finding by the Prehearing Officer, the party shall have waived the entire issue. When an issue and position have been properly identified, any party may adopt that issue and position in its post-hearing statement.

Document Identification

Each exhibit submitted shall have the following in the upper right-hand corner: the docket number, the witness's name, the word "Exhibit" followed by a blank line for the exhibit number and the title of the exhibit.

An example of the typical exhibit identification format is as follows:

Docket No. 000061-TI  
J. Doe Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost Studies for Minutes of Use by Time of Day

Controlling Dates

The following dates have been established to govern the key activities of this case.

1)	Complainant's direct testimony and exhibits	March 6, 2000
2)	Respondent's, Tampa Electric Company's, direct testimony	March 16, 2000
3)	Intervenors' direct testimony and exhibits	March 16, 2000
4)	Staff's direct testimony and exhibits, if any	March 20, 2000

5)	Rebuttal testimony and exhibits (complainant)	March 27, 2000
6)	Prehearing Statements	March 10, 2000
7)	Prehearing Conference	March 17, 2000
8)	Hearing	April 5, 2000
9)	Briefs	April 26, 2000

Use of Confidential Information At Hearing

It is the policy of this Commission that all Commission hearings be open to the public at all times. The Commission also recognizes its obligation pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes, to protect proprietary confidential business information from disclosure outside the proceeding. Any party wishing to use any proprietary confidential business information, as that term is defined in Section 366.093(3), Florida Statutes, shall notify the Prehearing Officer and all parties of record by the time of the Prehearing Conference, or if not known at that time, no later than seven (7) days prior to the beginning of the hearing. The notice shall include a procedure to assure that the confidential nature of the information is preserved as required by statute. Failure of any party to comply with the seven-day requirement described above shall be grounds to deny the party the opportunity to present evidence which is proprietary confidential business information.

When confidential information is used in the hearing, parties must have copies for the Commissioners, necessary staff, and the Court Reporter, in envelopes clearly marked with the nature of the contents. Any party wishing to examine the confidential material that is not subject to an order granting confidentiality shall be provided a copy in the same fashion as provided to the Commissioners, subject to execution of any appropriate protective agreement with the owner of the material. Counsel and witnesses are cautioned to avoid verbalizing confidential information in such a way that would compromise the confidential information. Therefore, confidential information should be presented by written exhibit when reasonably possible to do so. At the conclusion of that portion of the hearing that involves confidential information, all copies of confidential exhibits shall be returned to the proffering party. If a confidential exhibit has been admitted into

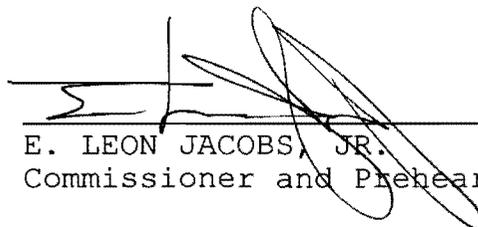
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Pursuant to Rule 28-106.215, Florida Administrative Code, a party's proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, if any, statement of issues and positions, and brief, shall together total no more than 40 pages, and shall be filed at the same time.

Based upon the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner E. Leon Jacobs, Jr., as Prehearing Officer, that the provisions of this Order shall govern this proceeding unless modified by the Commission.

By ORDER of Commissioner E. Leon Jacobs, Jr. as Prehearing Officer, this 23rd Day of February, 2000.

  
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E. LEON JACOBS, JR.  
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

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Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or (3) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.