

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request to modify  
definition of residential rate  
schedule by Gulf Power Company.

DOCKET NO. 000206-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-00-0622-TRF-EI  
ISSUED: March 31, 2000

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JOE GARCIA, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.  
LILA A. JABER

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF MODIFICATION

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 20, 2000, Gulf Power Company (GPC) filed a petition to modify the applicability of its Residential Service (RS) rate schedule to include separately metered detached garages, pools, boat docks, etc. as residential service. By Order No. PSC-00-0548-PCO-EI, issued on March 17, 2000, we suspended GPC's proposed tariff modifying the definition of its RS rate. The proposed tariff was suspended to allow the opportunity to request more supporting data, and additional time to evaluate the request.

The current definition does not specify that separately metered facilities located at the same premises shall be charged the residential rate. As a result of this lack of specificity many customers which take service at a separate delivery point are being charged the commercial rate at their second delivery point. The current definition is so narrow that customers with separately metered facilities such as garages, pools, and boat docks which are clearly residential in nature are charged the commercial rate. The proposed modification will more accurately bill customers for the service they are receiving. GPC's modified definition expands the existing one by including separately metered detached garages, pools, boat docks, and the like, as residential services.

GPC's petition further modifies the applicability criterion requiring RS customers to live in units "suitable for year-round

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family occupancy containing full kitchen facilities." GPC requested this modification to more accurately define residential service. The previous criterion required customers to have "housekeeping facilities." Although GPC does not know of any existing problems with customers trying to circumvent the current language they believe the proposed language is more specific.

These changes will insure that customers are charged the appropriate rate for the character of service they receive and provide a more specific definition of the applicability criteria. We believe that GPC has undertaken an appropriate plan to notify existing customers who qualify for RS service and prospective customers who may qualify. We therefore approve this tariff modification. This tariff shall become effective May 1, 2000.

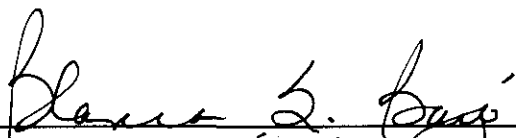
ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Gulf Power Company's request for approval of its Residential Service Rate Definition Modification is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED that the effective date of this tariff modification is May 1, 2000. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 31st day of March, 2000.

  
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BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

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.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on April 21, 2000.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.