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October 18, 2000

BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Florida Public Utilities Company; Docket No. 000003-GU

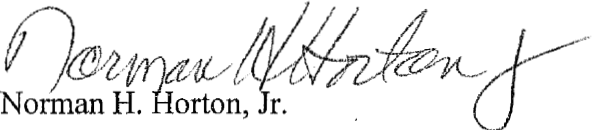
Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company in this docket are an original and ten copies of its Statement of Preliminary Issues and Positions.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the enclosed extra copy of this letter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Norman H. Horton, Jr.

NHH/amb
Enclosures
cc: Mr. George Bachman
Parties of Record

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
13268 OCT 18 2000
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Purchased Gas Cost Recovery)
_____)

Docket No. 000003-GU

Filed: October 18, 2000

**FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY'S
STATEMENT OF PRELIMINARY ISSUES AND POSITIONS**

Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPU") hereby submits its preliminary issues and positions to be taken up at the hearing scheduled to begin on November 20, 2000 in this docket.

Issue 1: **What is the appropriate final purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period January, 1999 through December, 1999?**

FPU's Position: \$67,156 (underrecovery)

Issue 2: **What is the estimated purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period January, 2000 through December, 2000?**

FPU's Position: \$33,877 (overrecovery)

Issue 3: **What is the total purchased gas adjustment true-up amount to be collected in the January, 2001 through December, 2001 period?**

FPU's Position: \$33,279 (underrecovery)

Issue 4: **What is the appropriate levelized purchased gas cost recovery (cap) factor to be charged during the period January, 2001 through December, 2001?**

FPU's Position: 84.781 cents

Issue 5: **What should be the effective date of the new purchased gas adjustment charge for billing purposes?**

FPU's Position: The factor should be effective for all meter readings on or after January, 2001, beginning with the first or applicable billing cycle for the period January, 2001 through December, 2001.

Dated this 18th day of October, 2000.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Norman H. Horton, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

NORMAN H. HORTON, JR., ESQ.
FLOYD R. SELF, ESQ.

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of Florida Public Utilities Company's Statement of Preliminary Issues and Positions in Docket No. 000003-GU have been served by hand delivery (*) and/or U. S. Mail this 18th day of October, 2000 upon the following:

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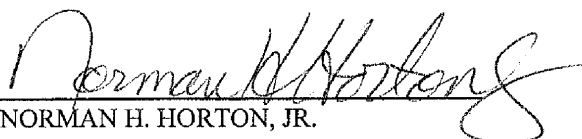
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