

STATE OF FLORIDA

E. LEON JACOBS, JR.
CHAIRMAN



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Public Service Commission

January 12, 2001

VIA FACSIMILE

Ansley Watson, Jr., Esquire
Macfarlen Ferguson & McMullen
P.O. Box 1531
Tampa, Florida 33601

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010003-GU

Dear Mr. Watson:

I received your letter dated January 10, 2001, requesting that Peoples Gas System's petition for mid-course correction be added as an emergency item to the Commission's January 16, 2001 Agenda Conference. Upon review and consideration, I believe there is not good cause to add this matter as an emergency item. Instead, the petition shall be considered at the Commission's February 6, 2001, Agenda Conference. I do not believe that this short period will significantly harm either Peoples or its customers.

While I am cognizant that this is Peoples' peak season for gas usage, Peoples would still have almost eleven months in which to apply the new cap to recover its costs if this matter is considered and ultimately approved at the February 6, 2001, Agenda Conference. Further, none of the points set forth in your letter indicate any threat to Peoples' ability to provide natural gas service to its customers. Considering this matter at our February 6, 2001, Agenda Conference will not cause a significant burden to Peoples' customers.

I do not construe Peoples' letter as a request for an emergency meeting. The Commission's January 16, 2001, Agenda Conference is a public meeting for which adequate notice has already been given. Further, I believe that Peoples' petition for mid-course correction does not rise to the level of an emergency matter affecting the public health, safety, or welfare.

Sincerely,

E. Leon Jacobs, Jr.
Chairman

ELJ/wck

RE: Docket No. 010003-GU

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