

**BEFORE THE FLORIDA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**DOCKET NO. 010001-EI
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

SEPTEMBER 20, 2001

**IN RE: LEVELIZED FUEL COST RECOVERY
AND CAPACITY COST RECOVERY**

**PROJECTIONS
JANUARY 2002 THROUGH DECEMBER 2002**

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF:

**K. M. DUBIN
G. YUPP**

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF KOREL M. DUBIN
DOCKET NO. 010001-EI
September 20, 2001

Q. Please state your name and address.

A. My name is Korel M. Dubin and my business address is 9250 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33174.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am employed by Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) as Manager of Regulatory Issues in the Regulatory Affairs Department.

Q. Have you previously testified in this docket?

A. Yes, I have.

Q. What is the purpose of your supplemental testimony?

A. The purpose of my supplemental testimony is to address generic and company-specific fuel adjustment issues identified in the revised Procedural Order PSC-01-1829-PCO-EI, issued on September 11, 2001 which were not addressed in my testimony filed on August 31, 2001.

1 **Q. What is the appropriate estimated benchmark level for calendar**
2 **year 2002 for gains on non-separated wholesale energy sales**
3 **eligible for a shareholder incentive as set forth by Order No.**
4 **PSC-00-1744-PAA-EI, in Docket No. 991779-EI, issued September**
5 **26, 2000, for each investor-owned electric utility?**

6 A. For the forecast year 2002, the three year average threshold consists
7 of actual gains for 1999, 2000 and January through July 2001, and
8 estimates for August through December 2001 (see below). Gains on
9 sales in 2002 are to be measured against this three year average
10 threshold, after it has been adjusted with the true up filing (scheduled
11 to be filed in April 2002) to include all actual data for the year 2001.

12	1999	\$59,183,161
13	2000	\$37,400,076
14	2001	\$17,026,999
15	Average threshold	\$37,870,079

16

17 This average threshold is calculated using the methodology proposed
18 by Staff in their memorandum dated September 20, 2000.

19

20 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for capital projects**
21 **with an in-service date on or after January 1, 2002, that are**
22 **expected to reduce long-term fuel costs?**

23 A. The appropriate regulatory treatment for capital projects that are
24 expected to reduce fuel costs is the treatment prescribed by the

1 Commission in Order No. 14546 in Docket No. 850001-EI-B where
2 the Commission listed the types of costs that are recoverable through
3 the Fuel Cost Recovery Clause. Item No. 10 in the Order states:

4 "10. Fossil fuel-related costs normally recovered through
5 base rates but which were not recognized or anticipated in the
6 cost levels used to determine current base rates and which,
7 if expended, will result in fuel savings to customers. Recovery
8 of such costs should be made on a case by case basis after
9 Commission approval."

10

11 **Q. What is the appropriate rate of return on the unamortized**
12 **balance of capital projects with an in-service date on or after**
13 **January 1, 2002, that are expected to reduce long term fuel**
14 **costs?**

15 A. Consistent with Commission practice, the return on the unamortized
16 balance of capital projects should be computed using capital ratios
17 and cost rates approved in the Company's last rate proceeding.

18

19 **Q. If an investor-owned electric utility exceeds the ceiling on its**
20 **authorized return on common equity, can and/or should the**
21 **Commission reduce by a commensurate amount recovery of**
22 **prudently incurred expenditures through the Commission's fuel**
23 **and purchased power cost recovery clause?**

24 A. No. It appears that this issue raises a legal question as well as a

1 policy question. My testimony does not comment on the legal
2 question. However, from a policy standpoint, the Fuel Cost Recovery
3 Clause is designed for a specific purpose. It is an adjustment to
4 reflect changes in fuel - a large and highly volatile expense item. The
5 objective of the Fuel Cost Recovery Clause is to keep the utility
6 financially whole and to provide proper price signals to customers.

7

8 **Q. Is FPL's aerial survey method of its coal inventory at Plant**
9 **Scherer as stated in Audit Disclosure No. 1 of Audit Control No.**
10 **01-053-4-1 consistent with the method set forth in Order No.**
11 **PSC-97-0359-FOF-EI, in Docket No. 970001-EI, issued March 31,**
12 **1997?**

13 A. No. Plant Scherer is located in Georgia and although the accounting
14 procedures recognized by the Georgia Public Service Commission
15 are similar to those stated in Order No. PSC-97-0359-FOF-EI, there
16 are some differences. However, these differences have very little
17 impact on the resulting coal inventory adjustments booked.

18

19 The Order states that the quantity of coal is to be adjusted at a
20 weighted average cost using the most recent six months inventory
21 data. For Scherer, the cost used is a weighted average unit cost for
22 the month prior to the survey. The two methods provide similar
23 results and over time tend to "wash". For example, from January
24 2000 through July 2001, the net difference between the two methods

1 is (\$239).

2

3 Additionally, the accounting procedures differ because Georgia
4 requires more aerial surveys than does Order No. PSC-97-0359-
5 FOF-EI. For Scherer, aerial surveys are performed four times a year
6 rather than two. Performing these surveys more frequently has no
7 significant impact on the coal inventory adjustments booked. For
8 example, when changing the frequency of aerial surveys from
9 quarterly to semi-annually for St. John River Power Park (SJRPP),
10 the Commission Staff analyzed a two year test period and came to
11 this conclusion. In Order No. PSC-95-1089-FOF-EI dated September
12 5, 1995 the Commission stated:

13 "We approve the parties' agreement to permanently change
14 the frequency of aerial coal inventory surveys from quarterly
15 to semi-annually. In Order Number PSC-93-0443-FOF-EI, we
16 approved a change in the frequency of aerial coal inventory
17 surveys from quarterly to semi-annually for a two year test
18 period. We directed our staff to review the impact of less
19 frequent surveys on inventory adjustments upon completion
20 of this test period. Staff's analysis showed that performing
21 aerial coal inventory surveys semi-annually as opposed to
22 quarterly has had no significant impact on the coal inventory
23 adjustments booked..."

24

1 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for sales of natural**
2 **gas and transportation capacity made by FPL to an affiliated or**
3 **unaffiliated company?**

4 A. When FPL's customers support the investment (i.e. pipeline capacity)
5 used to make the sale, the revenues from these sales are flowed
6 back to the retail customer through the Fuel Cost Recovery Clause.
7 FPL believes this is appropriate. There is no distinction made
8 between a sale made to an affiliated company versus a sale made to
9 an unaffiliated company. The sale of natural gas and transportation
10 capacity made by FPL to an affiliated company or an unaffiliated
11 company is treated the same.

12

13 **Q. How should FPL allocate the costs associated with its sales**
14 **of natural gas to Florida Power and Light Energy Services?**

15 A. The costs of the sale of natural gas to Florida Power & Light Energy
16 Services as well as the sale of gas to unaffiliated companies is
17 recovered through the price for the sale of that gas. Thus, all costs
18 of the sale are allocated to the sales price.

19

20 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment of Florida Power**
21 **and Light Energy Services' revenues and costs made to**
22 **customers within FPL's service area?**

23 A. When Florida Power & Light Energy Services makes a sale within
24 FPL's service area, the revenues and costs are included in FPL's

1 base rate operations and reflected in the monthly surveillance report.

2

3 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment of Florida Power**
4 **and Light Energy Services' revenues and costs made to**
5 **customers outside of FPL's service area?**

6 A. When Florida Power & Light Energy Services makes a sale outside
7 FPL's service area, these transactions are accounted for as a non-
8 utility operation.

9

10 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony.**

11 A. Yes, it does.

1 **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2 **FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

3 **SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF GERARD YUPP**

4 **DOCKET NO. 010001-EI**

5 **September 20, 2001**

6

7 **Q. Please state your name and address.**

8 A. My name is Gerard Yupp. My address is 11770 U. S. Highway One,
9 North Palm Beach, Florida, 33408.

10

11 **Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

12 A. I am employed by Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) as
13 Manager of Regulated Wholesale Power Trading in the Energy
14 Marketing and Trading Division.

15

16 **Q. Have you previously testified in this docket?**

17 A. Yes.

18

19 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

20 A. The purpose of my supplemental testimony is to address fuel
21 adjustment issues identified in the revised Procedural Order PSC-
22 01-1829-PCO-EI, issued on September 11, 2001 which were not
23 addressed in my testimony filed on August 31, 2001. My testimony

1 presents and explains FPL's current and future fuel hedging
2 strategies.

3

4 **Q. Has FPL taken reasonable steps to manage the risks**
5 **associated with its fuel and wholesale energy transactions**
6 **through the use of physical and financial hedging practices?**

7 A. Yes

8

9 **Q. What hedging strategies has FPL implemented over the past**
10 **year to manage the risks associated with its fuel and wholesale**
11 **energy transactions?**

12 A. FPL continually manages fuel and wholesale energy price risk to
13 achieve cost and volatility minimization for its customers. Over the
14 past year, FPL has taken a number of steps to mitigate the impact of
15 high fuel prices on its customers. FPL is able to minimize costs
16 through portfolio diversification, asset optimization and fuel hedging.
17 FPL's generation mix consists of nuclear, coal, petroleum coke, oil,
18 and natural gas-fired generation, as well as, purchased power
19 contracts. This diversified mix of resources reduces the risk of fuel
20 price volatility because FPL is not captive to one energy or fuel
21 source. FPL also maintains diversification within its fuel and
22 purchase power contracts through a mix of long-, mid- and short-
23 term transactions.

1 Additionally, FPL has been able to optimize its assets through fuel
2 switching between natural gas and oil, selling excess natural gas
3 into the market and burning lower cost oil, optimizing FPL's firm
4 natural gas transportation by selling delivered natural gas in the
5 Florida markets when oil prices are below natural gas prices, and
6 selling excess oil-fired generation and returning profits to FPL's
7 customers. FPL has also implemented numerous hedging
8 strategies to achieve cost minimization. As natural gas prices
9 peaked, FPL began maximizing its oil inventory, as well as,
10 aggressively procuring oil transportation. FPL also utilized natural
11 gas storage for the first time. Storing natural gas allowed FPL to
12 minimize its baseload natural gas requirements, when prices were
13 high, while continuing to have the capability to withdraw natural gas
14 on peak demand days to reliably meet its load. FPL has also
15 bought natural gas with embedded options to achieve below market
16 pricing. Finally, FPL has been able, at times, to exchange its winter
17 must-take natural gas volumes for natural gas in the summer.

18
19 FPL continues to develop and implement hedging strategies on a
20 daily basis to manage price risk and volatility. The fuel price
21 increases during the past year has resulted in FPL becoming even
22 more creative in finding ways to minimize fuel costs and volatility to
23 its customers.

1 **Q. Is FPL in the process of reviewing its hedging strategies and**
2 **methods to manage the risks associated with its fuel and**
3 **wholesale energy transactions?**

4 A. Yes, FPL is in the process of reviewing its hedging strategies and
5 methods to manage the risks associated with its fuel and wholesale
6 energy transactions. FPL has hired Dean & Company, a strategy
7 consultant firm, to explore alternative hedging strategies to enhance
8 FPL's current program. We plan to report on the results of the Dean
9 & Company study prior to the November Fuel Cost Recovery
10 hearings.

11

12 **Q. Should the Florida Public Service Commission encourage**
13 **Florida Power & Light to enter into derivative transactions to**
14 **manage the risks associated with its fuel and wholesale**
15 **energy transactions?**

16 A. Yes. The appropriate and controlled use of derivative instruments
17 will support both FPL's and the Florida Public Service Commission's
18 objective of fuel cost and volatility minimization to the customer.

19

20 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment of the gains and**
21 **losses that result from hedging fuel and wholesale energy**
22 **transactions?**

23 A. The appropriate regulatory treatment of the gains and losses that

1 result from hedging fuel and wholesale energy transactions is to
2 include both the gains and losses in the Fuel Clause.

3

4 **Q. What is the appropriate regulatory treatment for the premiums**
5 **received and paid for hedging fuel and wholesale energy**
6 **costs?**

7 A. Since the premiums received and paid are a direct and customary
8 component of hedging fuel and wholesale energy, they should be
9 included in the Fuel Clause, for the delivery period for which it
10 relates, as a normal and acceptable component of procuring fuel.

11

12 **Q. What is the appropriate treatment for the transaction costs**
13 **associated with hedging fuel and wholesale energy costs?**

14 A. Since the transaction costs associated with hedging fuel and
15 wholesale energy are a direct and customary cost of hedging fuel
16 and wholesale energy, they should be included in the Fuel Clause,
17 for the delivery period for which it relates, as the normal and
18 acceptable cost of hedging fuel and wholesale energy.

19

20 **Q. For the period March 1999 to March 2001, were FPL's natural**
21 **gas procurement practices reasonable?**

22 A. FPL's natural gas procurement practices during this time period
23 were reasonable and prudent. FPL's procurement strategies in this

1 highly volatile market enabled FPL to achieve cost and volatility
2 minimization to its customers.

3

4 **Q. Would you please summarize your testimony?**

5 A. I have presented and explained FPL's hedging strategies and have
6 indicated that the strategies and methods are currently under
7 review, and that FPL will be providing an update prior to the
8 November hearing. I have also indicated FPL's recommendation on
9 the regulatory treatment for the costs associated with an effective
10 hedging program, as well as, the treatment for the gains and losses
11 from the execution of a hedging program.

12

13 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

14 A. Yes, it does.