#### AUGUST 20, 2002

RE: Docket No. 020384-GU - Petition for rate increase by Tampa Electric Company d/b/a Peoples Gas System.

ISSUE 1: Should the request for a permanent increase in rates and charges be suspended for Peoples?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. Staff recommends that the requested permanent increase in rates and charges of \$22,615,228 be suspended for Peoples.

# **APPROVED**

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: Full Commission

|                           | COMMISSIONERS  | SIGNATURES |             |
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REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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ISSUE 2: Is Peoples' proposed interim test year rate base of \$471,679,000
appropriate?

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: No. The appropriate interim test year rate base for Peoples is \$469,965,000.

### **APPROVED**

<u>ISSUE 3</u>: Is Peoples' proposed interim test year net operating income of \$34,530,000 appropriate?

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: No. The appropriate interim test year net operating income for Peoples is \$36,755,000.

### **APPROVED**

ISSUE 4: Is Peoples' proposed interim return on equity of 10.25% and overall rate of return of 8.02% appropriate?

RECOMMENDATION: No. Based on staff's adjusted capital structure, the appropriate return on equity is 10.25% and the appropriate overall rate of return is 8.01% for interim purposes.

# **APPROVED**

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<u>ISSUE 5</u>: Is Peoples' proposed interim revenue expansion factor of 1.6435 appropriate?

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: Yes. Peoples' proposed interim revenue expansion factor of 1.6435 is appropriate.

### **APPROVED**

ISSUE 6: Should Peoples' requested interim revenue increase of \$5,421,000
be granted?

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: No. After making the above adjustments, the interim revenue increase for Peoples should be \$1,461,000.

# **APPROVED**

<u>ISSUE 7</u>: How should the interim revenue increase for Peoples be distributed among the rate classes?

RECOMMENDATION: Any interim revenue increase authorized should be applied evenly across the board to all rate classes based on their base rate revenues, as required by Rule 25-7.040, Florida Administrative Code, and should be recovered on a cents-per-therm basis. The interim rates should be made effective for all meter readings made on or after thirty days from the date of the vote and decision herein.

# **APPROVED**

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<u>ISSUE 8</u>: What is the appropriate security to guarantee the amount subject to refund?

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: A corporate undertaking in the amount of \$730,500 guaranteed by Peoples is appropriate. Interim rates are subject to refund with interest, pending a final order in the permanent rate relief request.

## **APPROVED**

ISSUE 9: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: No. This docket should remain open to process the company's requested rate increase.

## **APPROVED**