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September 27, 2002

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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. 020003-GU

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company in this docket are the following documents:

1. An original and 10 copies of Florida Public Utilities Company's Petition for Approval of Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Factor; *10380-02*
2. An original and 10 copies of the Direct Testimony of Cheryl M. Martin; *10381-02*
3. An original and 10 copies of the Direct Testimony of Marc L. Schneidermann; and *10382-02*
4. An original and 10 copies of Schedules E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, and E-5. *10383-02*

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.
Norman H. Horton, Jr.

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Enclosures
cc: Ms Cheryl M. Martin
Parties of Record

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Purchased Gas Adjustment Recovery)
_____)

Docket No. 020003-GU
Filed: September 27, 2002

**PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF
FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY'S
PURCHASED GAS COST RECOVERY FACTOR**

Florida Public Utilities Company ("the Company"), through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to the requirements of this docket, hereby petitions the Commission for approval of the Company's purchased gas cost recovery factors for the period January, 2003 through December, 2003. In support hereof, the Company states:

1) The Company is a natural gas utility company within the jurisdiction of this Commission. Its principal business address is:

401 South Dixie Highway
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

2) The name and address of the person authorized to receive notices and communications with respect to this Petition are:

Norman H. Horton, Jr.,
Messer, Caparello & Self, P. A.
Suite 701, First Florida Bank Building
Post Office Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

3) Pursuant to the requirements of this Docket, the Company has prefiled the purchased gas cost recovery forms supplied by the Electric & Gas Department in a manner consistent with the Department's instructions.

4) As indicated in the prefiled forms, the Company experienced an overrecovery of \$1,468,017 for the period January, 2001 through December, 2001 and estimates an underrecovery

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of \$1,234,948 for the period January, 2001 through December, 2001, for a total overrecovery of \$233,069. Based upon estimated sales of 48,463,120, it will be necessary to subtract 0.481 cents per therm to refund this overrecovery.

5) The Company has also projected its purchased gas costs for the period January, 2003 through December, 2003. As indicated in the accompanying schedules, the maximum purchased gas cost recovery factor is 82.860 cents per therm. This rate includes projected cost of gas purchased, prior period true-up, and revenue tax factors, and is based upon projected sales.

WHEREFORE, Florida Public Utilities Company petitions the Commission to approve the foregoing purchased gas cost recovery factors, to be applied to customer bills for the period January, 2003 through December, 2003, and to billings thereafter until other purchased gas cost recovery factors are approved by the Commission.

DATED this 27th day of September, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

MESSER, CAPARELLO & SELF, P. A.
Post Office Box 1876
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876
(850) 222-0720



NORMAN H. HORTON, JR., ESQ.

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of Florida Public Utilities Company's Petition for Approval of Purchased Gas Cost Factor with accompanying testimony and schedules in Docket No. 020003-GU have been served by hand delivery (*) and/or U. S. Mail this 27th day of September, 2002 upon the following:

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