

PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Docket No. 020384-GU

**In Re: Application for a rate
increase by Tampa Electric Company
d/b/a Peoples Gas System.**

**Submitted for Filing:
11/12/2002**

**REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
AND EXHIBITS OF:**

**BRUCE NARZISSENFELD
On Behalf of Peoples Gas System**

DOCUMENT NUMBER 12336

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1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2 A. My name is Bruce Narzissenfeld and my business address is 702 N.
3 Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602.

4 **Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?**

5 A. I am employed by Peoples Gas System (“Peoples” or the “Company”), as
6 Controller.

7 **Q. ARE YOU THE SAME BRUCE NARZISSENFELD WHO HAS**
8 **PREVIOUSLY FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF**
9 **PEOPLES IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

10 A. Yes.

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

12 A. My rebuttal testimony is directed to several adjustments proposed by the
13 witnesses for the Office of Public Counsel (“OPC”) and Mr. Roger
14 Fletcher, a Utility Systems Engineer employed by the Commission.

15 **Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE**
16 **ADJUSTMENTS YOU WILL BE DISCUSSING?**

17 A. Yes. I will be providing testimony regarding the following OPC and / or
18 Commission Staff adjustments:

- 19 • Accumulated deferred income tax increase related to bonus tax
20 depreciation
- 21 • Expense reduction related to executive stock grants and
22 incentive compensation
- 23 • Expense reduction related to Supplemental Executive
24 Retirement Plan (SERP) cost allocated from TECO Energy

- 1 • Expense reduction related to advertising
- 2 • Expense reduction related to sales and marketing
- 3 • Expense reduction related to rate case expense
- 4 • Expense reduction related to the meter sampling program
- 5 • Rate Base reduction related to non-utility use of land and
- 6 structures

7 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MS. DeRONNE'S PROPOSED**
8 **ADJUSTMENT OF \$7,992,760 TO ACCUMULATED DEFERRED**
9 **INCOME TAXES TO REFLECT THE IMPACT OF BONUS TAX**
10 **DEPRECIATION CONTAINED IN THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS**
11 **PACKAGE SIGNED INTO LAW IN MARCH 2002?**

12 A. No. The Company agrees that an adjustment is appropriate for the impact
13 of bonus depreciation on accumulated deferred income taxes; however, we
14 disagree with Ms. DeRonne's calculation of the amount.

15 **Q. HOW DOES YOUR CALCULATION OF BONUS DEPRECIATION**
16 **DIFFER FROM MS. DeRONNE'S?**

17 A. My calculation differs in two respects. First, my calculation reflects
18 Peoples' capital spending as revised in Exhibit ___ (JPH-2) prepared by
19 Company witness Mr. Higgins. Second, as stated in her testimony and on
20 Exhibit ___ (DD-1), Schedule D, Page 2, Ms. DeRonne assumes 100% of
21 the Company's projected additions qualify for bonus depreciation. She
22 also testifies that "...the Company's tax department would be more
23 qualified to make an exact determination" of which additions will qualify
24 for bonus depreciation. The Company's calculation on Exhibit ___

1 (BNN-2) reflects the tax department's review of capital projects and the
2 exclusion of those additions related to contracts entered into prior to
3 September 11, 2001.

4 **Q. WHAT HAVE YOU CALCULATED THE INCREASE IN**
5 **ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES TO BE**
6 **RESULTING FROM BONUS TAX DEPRECIATION?**

7 A. The Company has calculated an adjustment of \$4,278,225 to the 2003
8 projected test year 13-month average accumulated deferred income tax
9 balance, which is detailed on Exhibit____(BNN-2). Additionally, it should
10 be noted that accumulated deferred income taxes are temporary in nature
11 and will eventually reverse. Therefore, while the new law does have an
12 impact on the Company's 2003 accumulated deferred income taxes
13 included in capital structure, the Company's revenue requirements in
14 future years will be adversely impacted when these temporary differences
15 reverse.

16 **Q. DOES THE RECOGNITION OF BONUS DEPRECIATION ON**
17 **ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES REQUIRE ANY**
18 **OTHER ADJUSTMENT TO THE COMPANY'S CAPITAL**
19 **STRUCTURE?**

20 A. Yes. To appropriately reflect the Company's capital structure, it is
21 necessary to decrease short-term debt by the identical amount that
22 accumulated deferred income taxes are increased in connection with the
23 recognition of this bonus depreciation.

24 **Q. WHY IS THE ADJUSTMENT TO SHORT-TERM DEBT**
25 **APPROPRIATE?**

1 A. To the extent bonus depreciation generates cash, this cash will be used to
2 reduce the Company's short-term borrowings.

3 **Q. OPC'S WITNESS CICCHETTI PROPOSED THAT THIS**
4 **ADJUSTMENT BE MADE PRO-RATA OVER ALL INVESTOR**
5 **SOURCES OF CAPITAL. WHY IS THIS NOT APPROPRIATE?**

6 A. It is not appropriate because the other sources will not be affected by this
7 adjustment. In addition to short-term debt, the other investor sources of
8 capital are customer deposits, long-term debt and equity. The Company
9 will not refund deposits to customers. The Company, in all likelihood,
10 will not reduce long-term debt because of "make-whole" provisions in the
11 agreements as well as the relatively small dollar amounts in relation to the
12 total debt outstanding. The Company's equity would not be affected
13 because the Company already dividends 100% of its earnings to its parent.
14 Thus, what the Company would actually do with the additional funds
15 generated by bonus depreciation is reduce short-term debt, which is why
16 the appropriate adjustment is to short-term debt, rather than a pro-rata
17 application over all investor sources of capital.

18 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED MS. DeRONNE'S PROPOSED**
19 **ADJUSTMENT TO OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**
20 **("O&M") EXPENSE TO REMOVE PROJECTED EXECUTIVE**
21 **STOCK GRANTS, AND MR. SCHULTZ'S ADJUSTMENT TO**
22 **REMOVE INCENTIVE COMPENSATION COSTS ALLOCATED**
23 **FROM TECO ENERGY?**

24 A. Yes.

1 **Q. HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THESE PROPOSED**
2 **ADJUSTMENTS?**

3 A. In her testimony, Ms. DeRonne proposed an adjustment of \$444,000 to
4 reduce O&M expense for executive stock grants. Mr. Schultz proposes a
5 similar adjustment of \$289,975 to eliminate restricted stock as shown on
6 Exhibit_____ (HWS-1), Schedule H. Neither of these adjustments should
7 be made.

8 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR RATIONALE FOR NOT MAKING**
9 **THESE ADJUSTMENTS.**

10 A. Incentive compensation, including executive stock grants, is an integral
11 component of the total compensation package provided to officers. At
12 both TECO Energy and Peoples, the determination of compensation for
13 officers is administered by the four member Compensation Committee of
14 the Board of Directors, which is composed entirely of independent, non-
15 employee directors. This Committee recommends to the full Board the
16 total compensation package for officers. The objective of the Company's
17 compensation program is to attract and retain the talent needed to manage
18 and build the Company's business. The Committee seeks, therefore, to
19 provide compensation that is competitive. To assist the Committee in its
20 determination of fair and appropriate compensation, the compensation and
21 benefits consulting firm Towers Perrin performs annual studies of the
22 value of total compensation provided to officers, as it compares to that
23 paid in the energy services industry and in general industry. A copy of the
24 most recently received executive summary from Towers Perrin is attached
25 as Exhibit____(BNN-3). In determining an officer's compensation, the

1 Committee first determines the appropriate total value of compensation
2 and then allocates this total amount among base salary, annual incentive
3 awards and long-term incentive awards. Towers Perrin compared officers'
4 compensation to a composite in which the energy services industry was
5 weighted at 60% and general industry at 40%. The results of this study
6 found that officers' cash compensation (which is defined as base salary
7 plus annual incentive award) was at the [REDACTED] percentile and long-term
8 incentive awards (which consist of equity-based grants in the form of
9 stock options and restricted stock) were at the [REDACTED] percentile.
10 Accordingly, the inclusion of both the incentive award and the stock
11 grants as components of officers' compensation yields results that are
12 comparable with both the energy services industry and general industry.
13 These awards and grants are appropriate components of the compensation
14 package necessary to attract and retain the talent needed to manage and
15 build the company's business. They are components of a total
16 compensation package and do not represent "additional," "extra" or
17 "excessive" compensation as asserted by Ms. DeRonne and Mr. Schultz.

18 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. SCHULTZ'S PROPOSED**
19 **ADJUSTMENT TO REMOVE SERP COSTS ALLOCATED FROM**
20 **TECO ENERGY?**

21 A. No. Mr. Schultz proposes an adjustment of \$159,647 on Exhibit _____
22 (HWS-1), Schedule H. This adjustment should not be made.

1 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR RATIONALE FOR NOT MAKING**
2 **THIS ADJUSTMENT.**

3 **A.** The provision of a SERP is an integral component of the total benefits
4 package provided certain officers of the corporation. The objective of the
5 Company's executive benefit program is to assist in the attraction and
6 retention of the talent needed to manage and build the Company's
7 business. Oversight of the corporation's executive benefit program is the
8 responsibility of the four member Compensation Committee of the Board
9 of Directors, which is composed entirely of independent, non-employee
10 directors. This Committee recommends to the full Board benefits for
11 officers of the corporation. The Committee seeks to provide a
12 comprehensive benefit program that is market competitive. To assist the
13 Committee in evaluating the market competitiveness of the corporation's
14 executive retirement program, the compensation and benefits consulting
15 firm Towers Perrin recently conducted a study of the executive retirement
16 program. Part of the study was to determine how TECO Energy's SERP
17 program compares to those provided in the energy services sector, as well
18 as in general industry. Towers Perrin concluded that the SERP program of
19 TECO Energy is within the boundaries of competitive practices for an
20 organization of TECO Energy's size, stature, and industry profile. The
21 program is fully competitive with both general industry and the energy
22 industry. The SERP is a component of a total benefit package and does not
23 represent "additional," "extra" or "excessive" compensation as asserted by
24 Mr. Schultz. Therefore, no adjustment should be made.

1 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE ADVERTISING EXPENSE**
2 **ADJUSTMENT PROPOSED BY MS. DeRONNE AND PRESENTED**
3 **ON HER EXHIBIT ____ (DD-1), SCHEDULE C-4?**

4 A. Yes. In general, the Company finds Ms. DeRonne's proposed adjustment
5 of \$127,757 reasonable. Staff witness Mr. Rohrbacher has also reviewed
6 the advertising that is referred to by Ms. DeRonne and has proposed an
7 adjustment of \$132,285. The Company's concern is that only one of
8 these adjustments should be made, not both.

9 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED MS. DeRONNE'S TESTIMONY**
10 **REGARDING PEOPLES' OUTSOURCING OF ITS SALES AND**
11 **MARKETING FUNCTIONS TO TECO PARTNERS?**

12 A. Yes. She makes a number of observations regarding Peoples' decision to
13 outsource these functions, and on her Exhibit ____ (DD-1), Schedule C-3,
14 ultimately proposes an adjustment to reduce sales and marketing expense
15 in the 2003 projected test year by \$802,122.

16 **Q. DISREGARDING FOR A MOMENT THE PRECISE**
17 **ADJUSTMENT PROPOSED BY MS. DeRONNE, ARE THE**
18 **OBSERVATIONS SHE MAKES REGARDING THE COMPANY'S**
19 **DECISION TO OUTSOURCE THESE FUNCTIONS ACCURATE?**

20 A. No. Ms. DeRonne gives the impression that inadequate due diligence was
21 performed in the formation of TECO Partners and in the decision by
22 Peoples to outsource its sales and marketing functions to this organization.
23 The decision to outsource the sales and marketing function was carefully
24 examined and this decision was discussed with the Commission Staff prior

1 to commencement as well as disclosed through Peoples' filing of its 2001
2 FPSC Annual Report (FERC Form 2).

3 **Q. MS. DeRONNE STATES SHE WAS TOLD BY UNIDENTIFIED**
4 **"COMPANY PERSONNEL" THAT THE COST REDUCTIONS**
5 **PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF OUTSOURCING THESE**
6 **FUNCTIONS WOULD BE 10% IN THE FIRST YEAR, WITH**
7 **ADDITIONAL 3% DECREASES THEREAFTER. IS THIS**
8 **STATEMENT CORRECT?**

9 A. I have no idea what Ms. DeRonne may have been told, but her fixation on
10 a 10% savings in the first year of the arrangement is simply mistaken. No
11 one in the Company is aware of any documentation indicating that the
12 savings would be 10% in the first year of the arrangement, nor was it ever
13 the expectation of anyone in Peoples' management that a 10% savings
14 would be realized in the first year. If, in fact, Ms. DeRonne was told by
15 "Company personnel" of anticipated 10% cost reductions in the first year,
16 such personnel was or were uninformed of the facts, and/or whatever
17 statement he, she or they may have made was either spoken, or taken by
18 Ms. DeRonne, out of context. No 10% savings from the outsourcing by
19 Peoples of its sales and marketing functions was at any time ever
20 contemplated.

21 **Q. WHAT SAVINGS DID THE COMPANY ANTICIPATE IN THE**
22 **FIRST YEAR?**

23 A. The savings contemplated were estimated at 3%, which represented the
24 absorption by TECO Partners of salary increases and inflation.

1 **Q. MS. DeRONNE HAS TESTIFIED IT IS CORRECT, AS STATED IN**
2 **MR. SIVARD'S TESTIMONY, THAT THE MFRs INCLUDE**
3 **REDUCTIONS FOR BOTH 2002 AND 2003 FROM SALES AND**
4 **MARKETING EXPENSE RECORDED ON THE COMPANY'S**
5 **BOOKS IN 2001. HOWEVER, SHE HAS ALSO TESTIFIED THAT**
6 **THE SALES EXPENSE RECORDED IN ACCOUNT 912 FOR 2000,**
7 **PRIOR TO OUTSOURCING THE SALES AND MARKETING**
8 **FUNCTION, INCREASED FROM \$3 MILLION IN 2000 TO \$8**
9 **MILLION IN 2001. IS MS. DeRONNE'S TESTIMONY IN THIS**
10 **REGARD CORRECT?**

11 **A.** Yes, the increase of \$5 million is mathematically accurate. However, it
12 does not compare the total sales and marketing expense in various
13 accounts in 2000 with similar accounts in 2001.

14 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THESE ACCOUNTS SHOULD BE**
15 **COMPARED.**

16 **A.** The correct analysis has been completed and is contained in Exhibit _____
17 (BNN-4), which is identical to Peoples' answer to Staff's Interrogatory
18 No. 105. This schedule considers all categories of expenses that are
19 associated with the performance of the sales and marketing services versus
20 considering only the sales expenses charged to Account 912. Considering
21 Account 912 expenses on a stand alone basis is not a correct or
22 appropriate approach to determine actual sales and marketing expenses
23 incurred by the Company. Ms. DeRonne's acknowledges this fact in her
24 testimony when she states "Consequently, a comparison of only Account
25 912 to determine the impact of the cost reductions would not reflect an

1 accurate comparison of sales and marketing costs before and after the
2 separation of TECO Partners, Inc.”.

3 **Q. MS. DeRONNE STATES THAT NO COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS**
4 **WAS CONDUCTED BY THE COMPANY PRIOR TO ITS**
5 **DECIDING TO OUTSOURCE THE SALES AND MARKETING**
6 **FUNCTIONS. IS THIS CORRECT?**

7 **A.** Yes. No formal cost benefit study was performed. However, as stated
8 earlier, the Company carefully reviewed and thought out the decision to
9 outsource its sales and marketing function. The outsourcing arrangement
10 was not a last minute decision. An analysis was conducted and the
11 characterization of how the amounts to be paid under the contract between
12 Peoples and TECO Partners were determined was appropriately described
13 in Peoples’ answer to Staff’s Interrogatory No. 106. As stated in the
14 Company’s answer to that interrogatory, Peoples did not perform a formal
15 “cost-benefit analysis.” Peoples performed an in depth analysis of its
16 2000 expenses to determine the total cost of its sales and marketing
17 activities regardless of where the costs might have been charged
18 (depreciation expense, taxes other than income, G&A expense, etc.).
19 TECO Partners then agreed to perform the same level of sales and
20 marketing for less than Peoples would have otherwise paid. The decision
21 to outsource was a simple matter of getting the same services for less
22 money. Again, stated in simple terms, it was a very easy decision for the
23 Company to make that they could receive, and are now receiving, the
24 same services for less money.

1 **Q. IS PEOPLES GAS THE ONLY COMPANY FOR WHICH TECO**
2 **PARTNERS PROVIDES SALES AND MARKETING SERVICES?**

3 A. No. Peoples is only one of TECO Partners' 17 customers.

4 **Q. MS. DeRONNE EXPRESSES SOME CONCERNS REGARDING**
5 **THE CONTRACT BETWEEN TECO PARTNERS AND PEOPLES.**
6 **CAN YOU ADDRESS HER VARIOUS CONCERNS?**

7 A. Yes. First, Ms. DeRonne expresses concern because the 2001 contract
8 anticipates a payment from Peoples to Partners of \$8.75 million, but when
9 compared to the revised marketing costs for 2000, it was \$8,751,680. She
10 observed that these amounts are very close, and do not reflect a 10%
11 savings. Her observation that the two amounts are very close is correct.
12 However, as I have previously testified, Ms. DeRonne's impression that
13 there would be a 10% savings in the first year of the arrangement is
14 erroneous.

15 Second, Ms. DeRonne was concerned because the agreements
16 involved the shifting of Peoples Gas employees to a non-regulated affiliate
17 company. These shifts of employees were reported on the FPSC Annual
18 Report (FERC Form 2) which contains a specific area for reporting
19 transfers.

20 Third, Ms. DeRonne states that very little information was
21 provided to justify the contract amounts and the level of expenses included
22 in the projected 2003 test year for these agreements. This is simply not
23 the case. First and foremost, the MFRs clearly state that the level of
24 expenses included for the payments required by the Company's contract
25 are projected to decrease 3% from the 2002 contract payments. Aside

1 from this, the Company firmly believes that it was more than cooperative
2 in providing to the OPC and the Commission Staff virtually every one of
3 the broad categories of documents relating to TECO Partners and the
4 Company's decision to outsource its sales and marketing functions. The
5 Company also responded to numerous interrogatories propounded by both
6 the OPC and the Commission Staff, and responded to all audit requests on
7 the subject made by the Commission's audit personnel. Ms. DeRonne's
8 concerns are simply unfounded.

9 . **Q. MS. DeRONNE HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMISSION**
10 **CONSIDER INITIATING A MORE IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATION**
11 **INTO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TECO PARTNERS AND**
12 **PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM. DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS?**

13 Given the complete disclosures as indicated in the Company's FERC
14 Form 2, discussions with the Commission Staff, and representatives of the
15 Office of Public Counsel (including Ms. DeRonne), the audit recently
16 conducted in this rate proceeding, and the Company's responses to
17 voluminous discovery in this case, Peoples believes the investigation
18 suggested by Ms. DeRonne would be redundant. Nevertheless, the
19 Company would not oppose such an investigation because it firmly
20 believes the actions it has taken in connection with the outsourcing of the
21 sales and marketing functions to TECO Partners have been prudent,
22 appropriate, reasonable, and completely "above board."

23 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MS. DeRONNE'S PROPOSED**
24 **ADJUSTMENT TO SALES AND MARKETING EXPENSE OF**
25 **\$802,122?**

1 **A.** No. The entirety of the adjustment is based on a 10% reduction of the
2 Company's 2000 marketing expense as calculated by Ms. DeRonne. As I
3 have previously testified, the 10% reduction is erroneous and unsupported.
4 Therefore, this calculation is not accurate and no adjustment is required or
5 should be made.

6 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MS. DeRONNE'S PROPOSED**
7 **ADJUSTMENT TO RATE CASE EXPENSE?**

8 No. The \$60,000 adjustment proposed by Ms. DeRonne in her testimony
9 is not appropriate. The expense proposed by the Company in the MFRs
10 was based on two components: the dollar amount of rate case expense
11 (\$240,000) that the Company at that time estimated it would incur in the
12 case, and the period of time over which this expense should be recovered
13 (two years). Ms. DeRonne's proposed adjustment is directed to the
14 amortization period component, so I will address that component first.

15 The amortization period chosen is largely a matter of judgment,
16 giving consideration to past history as well as financial impact to the
17 ratepayers. Through the many cost-saving measures implemented by the
18 Company, which have been discussed throughout this proceeding, Peoples
19 has been successful, until now, in avoiding a proceeding for increased
20 rates for more than 10 years. To look at past history, one must go back to
21 the period from 1981 to 1991. During that 10 year period, the Company
22 had five rate cases, or an average of one every two years. The choice of
23 an amortization period is a matter of judgment, and Ms. DeRonne's use of
24 four years is no more supported than the Company's use of two years.

1 The other component – the expense estimated to be incurred by the
2 Company in this proceeding – is no longer appropriate. The estimate of
3 \$240,000 at the time the Company’s MFRs were filed was based on
4 Peoples’ experience in its past rate cases. However, the intensity of the
5 discovery conducted in this proceeding has made past history meaningless.
6 As a result, the Company has experienced, and is experiencing,
7 significantly higher costs than have ever been incurred in its prior cases.
8 Among the areas in which these higher costs have been incurred are higher
9 overtime costs as a result of the Company’s almost continuous efforts to
10 respond to a vastly increased number of interrogatories and production
11 requests, higher expert/outside witness costs as a result of multiple
12 depositions, and higher legal costs as a result of the significant increase in
13 discovery and resisting a motion to compel discovery from the Company
14 of documents in the possession and control of its affiliates.

15 **Q. DO YOU HAVE A REVISED PROJECTION OF THE COMPANY’S**
16 **RATE CASE EXPENSE?**

17 A. Yes. The Company’s new and more accurate projection of its rate case
18 expense is \$350,000, or an increase of \$110,000.

19 **Q. WHAT EFFECT WOULD THIS HIGHER RATE CASE EXPENSE**
20 **HAVE ON THE AMORTIZATION INCLUDED IN THE**
21 **COMPANY’S MFRs?**

22 A. Based on a two year amortization period, this higher cost would result in
23 an increase in rate case expense amortization of \$55,000. Thus, the
24 amortization of rate case expense included in the projected test year
25 should be increased from \$120,000 to \$175,000.

1 **Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE ADJUSTMENTS PROPOSED**
2 **BY MR. FLETCHER IN HIS TESTIMONY?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE ADJUSTMENTS PROPOSED BY**
5 **MR. FLETCHER?**

6 A. I disagree with two of his proposed adjustments. First, Mr. Fletcher
7 proposed an adjustment to reduce expenses in Account 878 by \$1,617,598
8 related to the Company's meter sampling program. This adjustment is
9 discussed at lines 11 through 19 on page 5 of his direct testimony.
10 Second, Mr. Fletcher has proposed adjustments reducing rate base to
11 reflect non-utility use of land and structures. These adjustments are
12 discussed at lines 1 through 19 on page 4 of his direct testimony.

13 **Q. IS MR. FLETCHER'S PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT OF \$1,617,598**
14 **TO ACCOUNT 878, RELATED TO THE COMPANY'S METER**
15 **SAMPLING PROGRAM, APPROPRIATE?**

16 A. Absolutely not. There are at least two flaws in the stated rationale for the
17 adjustment.

18 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S METER SAMPLING PROGRAM?**

19 A. In 1998, the Company initiated a statistical meter sampling program
20 pursuant to Commission Rule 25-7.064, to replace its former 10 year
21 meter change-out program. The new program, which was approved by the
22 Commission, is a sampling plan which uses military standard sampling
23 techniques to identify how many meters will be removed from the field
24 and tested to verify they satisfy meter accuracy standards. Based on the
25 total number of meters that Peoples has in service, the military standard

1 establishes 315 as the minimum number of meters that must be tested in
2 order to insure the accuracy of the sample.

3 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE FLAWS IN THE ADJUSTMENT**
4 **PROPOSED BY MR. FLETCHER.**

5 **A.** As I stated earlier, the military standard used in the new program
6 establishes 315 as the minimum number of meters that must be tested in
7 order to insure the accuracy of the sample. Mr. Fletcher incorrectly
8 characterizes 315 as being the normal number of meters tested and
9 proposes an adjustment to normalize expenses to that level. This is an
10 incorrect adjustment to make because it assumes the only meters to be
11 tested are those making up the minimum sample. Mr. Fletcher also
12 contradicts his position regarding what is normal by pointing out that
13 “since the initiation of the sampling program in 1998, each year the
14 statistical sample group has failed to meet accuracy requirements.” In
15 other words, each year Peoples has been required to test more than the
16 minimum 315 meters, so to say that 315 is “normal” is unsupported by the
17 facts.

18 **Q. WHAT ARE THE OTHER PROBLEMS WITH MR. FLETCHER’S**
19 **PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT TO ACCOUNT 878?**

20 **A.** Even if one was to accept that some normalization is appropriate (which
21 Peoples does not accept), Mr. Fletcher’s proposed adjustment to O&M
22 Expense Account 878 is incorrect. In calculating his adjustment, Mr.
23 Fletcher took into consideration Change-Out Installation Expense
24 (estimated at \$63.03 per meter), Meter Removal Expense (estimated at
25 \$13.45 per meter), and Meter Testing Expense (estimated at \$6.00 per

1 meter). When, in the course of the sampling program, the Company
2 identifies a failed family of meters, the Company initiates a program to
3 retire the meters in the failed family and replace them with new meters.
4 As such, for the failed family of meters, the Change-Out Installation
5 Expense of \$63.03 per meter and the Meter Removal Expense of \$13.45
6 per meter are charged to capital, not to O&M Expense in Account 878 as
7 suggested by Mr. Fletcher.

8 **Q. ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT SEPARATE ADJUSTMENTS**
9 **SHOULD BE MADE TO CAPITAL AND O&M EXPENSE**
10 **RELATING TO THE METER SAMPLING PROGRAM?**

11 **A.** No. In the case of the Meter Testing Expense, which is an O&M expense,
12 no adjustment should be made for the reasons stated above; that is, the
13 expense level included in the Company's MFRs is not abnormal or non-
14 recurring. In the case of the Change-Out Installation Expense and the
15 Meter Removal Expense, no adjustment should be made for two reasons.
16 First, as previously stated, the level of meter change-outs is not abnormal.
17 Second, even if it were deemed to be abnormal, accelerated meter
18 retirements, shortened service life, and the associated removal costs are
19 items that are usually dealt with in a depreciation study. In a depreciation
20 study, average service life as well as higher negative salvage (removal
21 cost) are items that are considered in setting appropriate depreciation rates.
22 Thus, it would be inappropriate to make any adjustment to capital in this
23 proceeding because these costs were prudently incurred and the assets are
24 used and useful in providing utility service.

1 **Q. MR. FLETCHER HAS PROPOSED AN ADJUSTMENT**
2 **REDUCING RATE BASE TO REFLECT NON-UTILITY USE OF**
3 **LAND AND OFFICES. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR.**
4 **FLETCHER'S PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT?**

5 **A.** In general, I do not disagree with Mr. Fletcher's analysis and the
6 methodology used to allocate a portion of certain land and buildings to
7 non-utility. There is, however, one portion of his adjustment that needs to
8 be addressed.

9 As indicated by witness J. Paul Higgins, Peoples' capital spending
10 in 2002 and 2003 will be less than was originally included in the MFRs.
11 One of the items included in this reduction in spending for 2003 is the
12 Company's elimination of its South Florida Regional Office. Mr. Fletcher
13 correctly points out that this office will not be used and useful, and has
14 included this in his proposed adjustment. If an adjustment is made to plant
15 in service based on the Company's Exhibit ____ (JPH-2), then that portion
16 of Mr. Fletcher's adjustment relating to the South Florida Regional Office
17 should not be made as this would result in the adjustment's being doubled
18 counted. Exhibit ____ (BNN-5) shows the adjustment proposed by Mr.
19 Fletcher with the portion of the adjustment relating to the South Florida
20 Regional Office removed.

21 **Q. WHAT ARE THE COMPANY'S PLANS FOR THE SOUTH**
22 **FLORIDA REGION OFFICE IF THIS BUILDING IS REMOVED?**

23 **A.** In lieu of an owned facility, it is anticipated that office space will be
24 leased. There is currently a proposal to lease 4,300 square feet at an

1 annual rent expense of \$67,865. As such, rent expense should be
2 increased by \$67,865 annually.

3 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

4 A. Yes.

Additional Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes - Revised Depreciation Projections

Line No.	Description	Amount	Reference
1.	Revised 2002 Tax Depreciation	45,612,000	
2.	2002 Book Depreciation	30,193,000	Exhibit__ (JPH-2)
3.	Projected 2002 Depreciation M-1	15,419,000	Line 1 Less Line 2
4.	2002 Depreciation M-1 Reported on MFRs	7,496,000	MFR Schedule G-2, p. 249
5.	Additional M-1	7,923,000	Line 3 Less Line 4
6.	Tax Rate	35%	
7.	Addition to Deferred Income Tax Balance - 2002	2,773,050	Line 5 x Line 6
8.	Revised 2003 Tax Depreciation	47,390,000	
9.	2003 Book Depreciation	32,409,000	Exhibit__ (JPH-2)
10.	Projected 2003 Depreciation M-1	14,981,000	Line 8 Less Line 9
11.	2003 Depreciation M-1 Reported on MFRs	6,380,000	MFR Schedule G-2, p. 252
12.	Additional M-1	8,601,000	Line 10 Less Line 11
13.	Tax Rate	35%	
14.	Addition to Deferred Income Tax Balance - 2003	3,010,350	Line 12 x Line 13
15.	Total Addition to Deferred Income Tax Balance - Year End	5,783,400	Line 7 + Line 14
16.	Total Addition to Deferred Income Tax Balance - 13 Month Average	4,278,225	Exhibit__ (BNN-2), page 2

PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
 Projected Test Year Ended December 31, 2003

Exhibit No _____
 Docket No 020384-GU
 Peoples Gas System
 (BNN-2)
 Page 2 of 2

Additional Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes - Revised Depreciation Projections

	BEG BALANCE	JANUARY 2003	FEBRUARY 2003	MARCH 2003	APRIL 2003	MAY 2003	JUNE 2003	JULY 2003	AUGUST 2003	SEPTEMBER 2003	OCTOBER 2003	NOVEMBER 2003	DECEMBER 2003	13 MONTH AVERAGE	Reference
Accumulated Deferred Income Tax - Originally Reported	17,305,014	17,273,350	17,241,687	17,210,023	17,178,360	17,146,696	17,115,032	17,083,369	17,051,705	17,020,041	16,988,378	16,956,714	16,925,050	17,115,032	MFR Schedule G-1, p 189
Increase to Deferred Income Tax - Revised Depreciation	2,773,050	3,023,913	3,274,775	3,525,638	3,776,500	4,027,363	4,278,225	4,529,088	4,779,950	5,030,813	5,281,675	5,532,538	5,783,400	4,278,225	Exhibit__(BNN-2), p 1 of 2
Revised Accumulated Deferred Income Tax	20,078,064	20,297,263	20,516,462	20,735,661	20,954,860	21,174,059	21,393,257	21,612,457	21,831,655	22,050,854	22,270,053	22,489,252	22,708,450	21,393,257	

Towers Perrin

VIA EXPRESS COURIER

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

April 5, 2002

Mr. Clint Childress
Vice President - Human Resources
TECO Energy, Inc.
702 N. Franklin Street
Tampa, FL 33601

RE: 2002 Long-Term Incentive Strategy and Grant Guidelines

Dear Clint:

At your request, Towers Perrin has prepared this letter report detailing our recommended long-term incentive strategy and grant guidelines for TECO Energy executives and management. Our analysis and recommendations include prospective grant levels for approximately 34 executives and management employees.

Mr. Clint Childress
April 5, 2002
Page 2.

EXHIBIT NO. _____
DOCKET NO. 020384-GU
PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
(BNN-3)
PAGE 2 OF 6

Towers Perrin

Mr. Clint Childress
April 5, 2002
Page 3.

EXHIBIT NO. _____
DOCKET NO. 020384-GU
PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
(BNN-3)
PAGE 3 OF 6

Towers Perrin

Mr. Clint Childress
April 5, 2002
Page 4.

EXHIBIT NO. _____
DOCKET NO. 020384-GU
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Mr. Clint Childress
April 5, 2002
Page 5.

EXHIBIT NO. _____
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PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
(BNN-3)
PAGE 5 OF 6

Towers Perrin _____

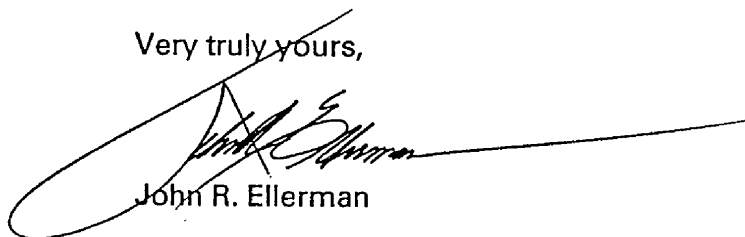
Mr. Clint Childress
April 5, 2002
Page 6.

EXHIBIT NO. _____
DOCKET NO. 020384-GU
PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
(BNN-3)
PAGE 6 OF 6

Towers Perrin _____

We hope that this letter and the attached Exhibits clearly portray our recommendations for the 2002 long-term incentive grants. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me directly.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Ellerman", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

John R. Ellerman

JRE:dh

Attachments

Marketing Dept Expenses
Period Ending December 31, 2000

Account Number (xx = Division)	Salaries & Commission	Materials & Supplies	Employee Expense	Transportation	Outside Services	Advertising	Utilities	Allocations	Other Expenses	Total	Adjustments
01 xx 100 91201	203,661	3,163	3,259		1,557				6,830	218,500	
01 xx 100 91205	(39)		697							658	
01 xx 130 87901	-	318	-							318	
01 xx 130 88001	1,096	820	321	163						2,400	
01 xx 130 88601	-	-	-	-	2,073					2,073	
01 xx 130 90301	21,151	-	-	-	-					21,151	
01 xx 130 91201	1,227,844	39,708	384,664	30,539	67,989		27,113		286,473	2,064,350	
01 xx 130 91205	(381)									(381)	
01 xx 130 91301	15,376	842	1,513			129,908				147,639	
01 xx 130 91601	-	-	-	-	-	660				660	
01 xx 130 92001	231,652	-	-	-	-	-	-			231,652	
01 xx 130 92101	-	14,731	68,282		44,871		33,621		26,602	189,107	
01 xx 130 92501	-	171	88		259					518	
01 xx 130 92601	-	-	1,867		-					1,867	
01 xx 130 93001	-	-	500		-					500	
01 xx 130 93003	-	-	8,942		-					8,942	
01 xx 130 93101	-	-	-		-				5,173	5,173	
01 xx 130 93201	-	2,016	-		18,958				188	13,162	
01 xx 300 91201	426,717	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	426,717	
01 xx 300 91205	(1,447)	(1,791)	(4,076)							(7,314)	
01 xx 300 92001	647,227	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	647,227	
01 xx 301 91201	-	-	13,506		-	-	-	-	52,266	65,772	
01 xx 301 91301	-	-	-		-	652,920			-	652,920	
01 xx 301 92101	-	61,283	53,252	666	88,229			33,086	5,879	242,395	
01 xx 302 91201	-	59	54,224		22,303					76,586	
01 xx 302 91601	-	-	-		-	(9,150)				(9,150)	
01 xx 302 92101	-	-	-		-	-		67,652	4,000	71,652	
01 xx 303 91201	-	933	25,209	1	3,190				9,830	39,163	
01 xx 303 92101	-	6,833	57,450		29,489			10,193	16,377	120,342	
01 xx 304 91201	-	797	22,090		48,215				18,823	89,925	
01 xx 304 91301	-	-	-		-	23,069				23,069	
01 xx 304 92101	-	55	11,813		4,997				(19,528)	(2,753)	
01 xx 304 93003	-	-	15,932		-					15,932	
01 xx 305 92101	-	1,990	14,604		5,667					22,261	
01 xx 400 91201	7,263	1,843	2,698		1,722		3,993		(186)	17,241	
01 xx 400 91301	-	-	1,844		7,943				2,092	11,879	
01 xx 410 91201	-	8,032	2,869		7,308					18,209	
01 xx 410 91301	-	-	-		4,187				1,250	5,437	
Total O&M	2,780,149	141,803	742,579	31,369	350,884	797,407	64,637	110,931	416,068	5,435,799	
01 xx 310 90801	563,793	4,497	182,236	3,764	88,599			82,068	1,411,334	2,287,291	
01 xx 310 90901	-	(966)	-			930,300				929,334	
01 xx 311 90801	112,048	804	13,723		156,039			15,444	7,520	305,578	
01 xx 311 90901	-	-	-		-	46,360				46,360	
Total EC	675,841	4,335	165,959	3,764	225,638	976,660		97,512	1,418,854	3,568,563	
01 xx 700 01111	4									4	
01 xx 700 10700	728,568									728,568	
Total Capital	728,572									728,572	
02 xx 450 91201	1,377	108,437	14,573			38,091		256	1,017	163,751	
02 xx 450 91202	-	683	-			1,822				2,505	
02 xx 450 91301	-	7,707	-			136,460				144,167	
02 xx 450 92002	435,285									435,285	
Total Propane	436,662	116,827	14,573			176,373		256	1,017	745,708	
Total Marketing	\$ 4,621,224	\$ 262,965	\$ 923,102	\$ 35,133	\$ 578,502	\$ 1,950,440	\$ 64,637	\$ 208,699	\$ 1,835,940	\$ 10,478,642	\$ 10,478,642
Adjustments for Teco Partners Contract											
Less:											
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	(1,774,067)	-	-	-	(1,774,067)	
Propane Exp	(436,662)	(116,827)	(14,573)			(176,373)		(256)	(1,017)	(745,708)	
Energy Conservation (less Advertising)	(675,841)	(4,335)	(165,959)	(3,764)	(225,638)	-	-	(97,512)	(1,418,854)	(2,591,903)	(5,111,678)
Add:											
Executive Dollars (Dept 900)	253,125									253,125	
RSVP Bonuses - Booked in Dept 903 @ 10% Fringe @ 15%	461,822									461,822	
Corporate Communications (Dept 400 @ Cor Consultant - Portion not charged to Marketing)					257,568				693,184	693,184	
Corporate Plane Expense				20,000	32,725					32,725	
										20,000	1,718,424
Function Realignment:											
Field Coordinators	(235,000)									(235,000)	
Cross Department Charges	(210,915)	(13,038)	(11,367)		(22,715)		(3,903)		(9,986)	(271,924)	
Builder Reps/Industrial Reps	675,841		165,959							841,800	
Liaison/Customer Service	(60,000)									(60,000)	
Economic Development					(300,000)					(300,000)	
CRC's (10 FTE's)	200,000									200,000	
Transfers from 300 to 320	(170,000)									(170,000)	4,876
Add: Utility Activities (CY'00) to be paid by Marketing in 2001											
Depreciation									160,880	160,880	
Telecom					225,000					225,000	
Legal					100,000					100,000	
Rent									483,360	483,360	
Employee Events			10,000							10,000	
MetroStudy - Residential Surveys (700-001-02)					54,180					54,180	
G&A								420,000		420,000	1,453,420
Total Contract Amount - Trued Up through December 31, 2000											
											\$ 8,543,684

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL OFFICE BUILDING REMOVAL AS
PROPOSED BY MR. FLETCHER**

	<u>Account 374</u>	<u>Account 375</u>	<u>Account 390</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Plant Adjustment</u>				
Proposed Adjustment	\$637,019	\$1,194,393	\$46,105	\$1,877,517
Less S. Florida Regional Office	<u>589,000</u>	<u>1,069,145</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,658,145</u>
Revised Adjustment	<u>\$ 48,019</u>	<u>\$ 125,248</u>	<u>\$46,105</u>	<u>\$ 219,372</u>
<u>Depreciation Reserve Adjustment</u>				
Proposed Adjustment		\$ 51,160	\$ 7,576	\$ 58,736
Less S. Florida Regional Office		<u>26,878</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>26,878</u>
Revised Adjustment		<u>\$ 24,282</u>	<u>\$ 7,576</u>	<u>\$ 31,858</u>