

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Review of Tampa Electric Company's)
Waterborne transportation contract with) DOCKET NO. 031033-EI
TECO Transport and associated benchmark.) FILED: January 28, 2004
_____)

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE
IN OPPOSITION TO REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT**

Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or "the company") files this its Response in Opposition to the Request for Oral Argument filed on behalf of Catherine L. Claypool, Helen fisher, William Page, Edward A. Wilson, Sue E. Strohm, Mary Jane Williamson, Betty J. Wise, Carlos Lissabet and Lesly A. Diaz (the "residential electric customers") on January 26, 2004 and says:

Tampa Electric does not believe that oral argument is necessary or appropriate in order for the Commission to fully consider and dispose of the reargument put forth in the residential electric customer's Motion for Reconsideration. The company urges that the Motion for Reconsideration be denied without oral argument, but reserves its right to participate in the event oral argument is scheduled.

DATED this 25th day of January 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEYS FOR TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing Response in Opposition to Motion for Oral Argument, filed on behalf of Tampa Electric Company, has been furnished by U. S. Mail or hand delivery (*) on this 28th day of January 2004 to the following:

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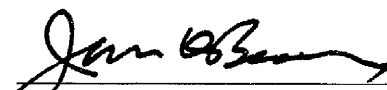
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