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November 2, 2004

HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Petition of Tampa Electric Company for approval of Depreciation Rate changes
for Big Bend Combustion Turbines Numbers 2 and 3 and Polk Units 2 and 3;
FPSC Docket No. 041143-EI

Dear Ms. Bayo:

CMP _____ Enclosed for filing in the above-styled matter are the original and fifteen (15) copies of
COM _____ Tampa Electric Company's Answers to Staff's Informal Data Requests Nos. 1-9.

CTR _____ Please acknowledge receipt and filing of the above by stamping the duplicate copy of this
ECR _____ letter and returning same to this writer.

GCL _____ Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.
OPC _____
MMS _____

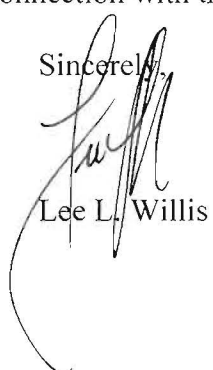
RCA _____

SCR _____

SEC 1 LLW/pp

OTH _____ Enclosure

Sincerely,



Lee L. Willis

cc: Betty Gardner (w/enc.)

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DM
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 041143-EI
STAFF'S INFORMAL DATA REQUEST
QUESTION NO.1
PAGE 1 OF 1
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- 1.** On page 2, number 5, the company stated that the planned work was accelerated for Big Bend CT 2 and 3. Please provide (1) the original date the planned work was to begin on Big Bend CT 2 and 3, (2) the accelerated beginning date, and (3) the date the work was completed.

- A.** The original completion date for the Big Bend CT 2 and 3 work was by May 1, 2006. These projects had no definitive original start date because they would only take months, not years, to complete. Given this relatively short project timeline a definitive start date had not yet been identified. Final approval to proceed with the work on Big Bend CT 2 and 3 was received on August 12, 2004. Preliminary work on Big Bend CT 2 began on July 19, 2004, in parallel to the RFP process for purchased power alternatives. This work is scheduled to be completed by November 11, 2004. Work on Big Bend CT 3 began on October 5, 2004 and is scheduled to end by December 23, 2004.

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- 2.** How much capacity will be provided by upgrading Big Bend CT 2 and 3?
- A.** Big Bend is not being upgraded; rather work is being done on these units to put them back in service as originally designed. Big Bend CT 2 is currently not operating and on long-term reserve shutdown. The planned work will restore the unit to an operational condition resulting in an additional 80MWs in the winter and 66MWs in the summer. Big Bend CT 3 is currently derated to 60MWs in the summer and 70MWs in the winter. The planned work will restore this unit's original capacity resulting in an additional 10MWs in the winter and 6MWs in the summer.

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QUESTION NO. 3
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- 3.** What has occurred to change the 2005 load projections as was previously stated in the Ten Year Site Plan? Please provide a detail explanation.
- A.** Load projections declined slightly due to lower projected consumption in the industrial sector. Enhancements to this sector's forecasting models and the loss of some existing industrial load contributed to the decline.

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QUESTION NO. 4
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4. Please provide a breakdown of Big Bend CT 2 and 3 replacement activities by account that equals the proposed \$4.1 million total cost.

A.

Combustion Turbine	Project #	Cost
Big Bend CT 2	B20.04	\$2.1 million
Big Bend CT 3	B20.05	\$2.0 million

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- 5.** For Polk Units 2 and 3, when were the property records and sub categorizations pertaining to the individual units completed?
- A.** The property records for Polk Units 2 and 3 were completed in July 2004. The depreciation study was completed in September 2004.

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- 6.** When was the construction completed for Polk Units 2 and 3?
- A.** Polk Unit 2 was placed in-service in July 2000 and expenditures were complete in July 2001. Polk Unit 3 was placed in-service in April 2002 and expenditures were complete in February 2003.

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- 7.** Currently, Big Bend CT 2 and 3 have a 2 year recovery schedule that was effective January 1, 2004 by Commission approved Order No. PSC-04-0815-PAA-EI and Docket No. 030409-EI. Is there a change in the recovery schedule due to the change to depreciation rates per unit?
- A.** The basis of the depreciation study for the Big Bend CT 2 and 3 is to abandon the recovery schedule as of January 1, 2004 and to establish depreciation rates that are effective as of that date. The life analysis supports this intent.

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QUESTION NO. 8
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- 8.** Please provide the diskette and e-mail the spreadsheets containing the associated dismantling calculations for Big Bend CT 2 and 3; and Polk Units 2 and 3.
- A.** Tampa Electric Company delivered the dismantling calculations for Big Bend CT 2 and 3 in electronic format, via email and supplemented with a diskette delivered to Staff on Thursday, October 28, 2004. There are no dismantling calculations for Polk Units 2 and 3, as their remaining life is unchanged.

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QUESTION NO. 9
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- 9.** Please provide the engineering analysis that TECO referred to in paragraph No. 6 of the petition which showed that replacing the damaged turbine blades was the most cost effective alternative.
- A.** The reduction in the capacity need for 2005 given the projected reduction in load made the work on the Big Bend CT's a viable option compared to building a new CT because the incremental capacity increase can now satisfy most of Tampa Electric's 2005 capacity requirements. Given that the cost of this project is \$4.1 million and the cost of a new CT would be about \$45 million, it is qualitatively apparent that work on the CT's is the most cost effective.