

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for rate increase by Progress
Energy Florida, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 050078-EI
ORDER NO. PSC-05-0770-CFO-EI
ISSUED: July 26, 2005

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION
(DOCUMENT NO. 05754-05)

On June 16, 2005, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, Progress Energy Florida, Inc. (PEF) filed a request for confidential classification of portions of its responses to Staff's First Set of Interrogatories and Staff's First Request for Production of Documents (Document No. 05754-05).

Section 366.093(1), Florida Statutes, provides that "any records received by the commission which are shown and found by the commission to be proprietary confidential business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from [the Public Records Act]." Section 366.093(3), Florida Statutes, defines proprietary confidential business information as information that is intended to be and is treated by the company as private, in that disclosure of the information would cause harm to the company's ratepayers or business operations, and has not been voluntarily disclosed to the public. Section 366.093(3), Florida Statutes, provides that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information" (subsection e).

PEF contends that portions of its response to Interrogatory No. 16 in Staff's First Set of Interrogatories and Request Nos. 1, 5, 6, and 7 in Staff's First Request for Production of Documents fall within these categories and thus constitutes proprietary confidential business information entitled to protection under Section 366.093, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code. PEF states that this information is intended to be and is treated by PEF as private and has not been publicly disclosed.

PEF contends that the information contained in portions of its response to Interrogatory No. 16 concerns confidential information regarding PEF's projected dividend amounts, the disclosure of which would impair PEF's competitive business interests. PEF asserts that if its investors were made aware of PEF's projected dividends, they may adjust their investment behavior, which could have an effect on investment in the company, potentially impairing PEF's position in the market. PEF states that portions of its response to Request Nos. 1, 5, 6, and 7 contain documents that describe its business strategies and budgets. PEF contends that if its competitors were made aware of PEF's sensitive business strategies, PEF's ability to contract for goods and services could be undermined. PEF further contends that if its suppliers or competitors were made aware of PEF's estimated budgets, they may adjust their behavior in the marketplace with respect to activities such as pricing and the acquisition and provision of goods, materials, and services.

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Upon review, it appears that the above-referenced information contained in portions of PEF's responses to Staff's First Set of Interrogatories and Staff's First Request for Production of Documents satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), Florida Statutes, for classification as proprietary confidential business information and, thus, shall be treated as confidential. The information constitutes "[i]nformation relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information." Thus, this information is granted confidential classification.

Pursuant to Section 366.093(4), Florida Statutes, the information for which confidential classification is granted herein shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this order. At the conclusion of the 18 month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, unless PEF or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

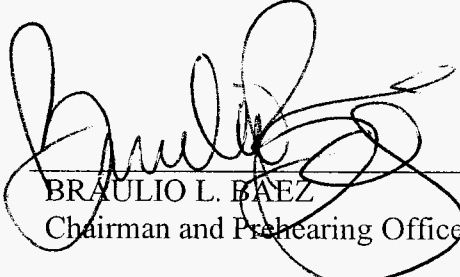
Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Chairman Braulio L. Baez, as Prehearing Officer, that Progress Energy Florida, Inc's Request for Confidential Classification of Document No. 05754-05 is granted. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 05754-05 for which confidential classification has been granted shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be the only notification by the Commission to the parties of the date of declassification of the materials discussed herein.

By ORDER of Chairman Braulio L. Baez, as Prehearing Officer, this 26th day of July, 2005.


BRAULIO L. BAEZ
Chairman and Prehearing Officer

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.