

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of tariff revisions to allow waiver of certain service charges for customers whose premises have been damaged by natural disasters or other declared emergencies, by Gulf Power Company.

DOCKET NO. 050804-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-05-1239-TRF-EI  
ISSUED: December 19, 2005

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

BRAULIO L. BAEZ, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY  
LISA POLAK EDGAR  
ISILIO ARRIAGA

ORDER APPROVING WAIVER OF CONNECTION CHARGES  
DURING NATURAL DISASTERS

BY THE COMMISSION:

On October 14, 2005, Gulf Power Company (Gulf) filed a petition to amend the Service Connection section of its Tariff Sheet No. 4.13. The proposed tariff revision would allow Gulf to waive connection charges for new or existing Gulf customers affected by natural disasters or during periods of declared emergencies. We have jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 366.03, 366.04, 366.05, and 366.06, Florida Statutes.

Currently, Gulf's tariff requires customers to pay a \$27.00 connection fee when they request service to both new and existing premises. Gulf has proposed to modify its tariff to allow it to waive these charges for both new and existing customers whose premises have been damaged due to natural disaster or other similar conditions for which an emergency has been declared. This waiver will thus be available both to existing Gulf customers who relocate to premises within Gulf's territory and to new Gulf customers who relocate due to damage to their premises outside of Gulf's territory.

We find that the proposed change is reasonable, and is therefore approved. The tariff revision will allow Gulf to provide relief to those customers who have been affected by recent hurricanes, as well as customers who are affected by future natural disasters that cause them to seek service in Gulf's territory.

Our decision herein is consistent with the relief granted by Order No. PSC-04-0985-TRF-EI, issued October 11, 2004 in Docket Nos. 040914-EI, In re Proposed revision to waive certain connection charges during periods of natural disaster by Florida Power & Light Company; 040915-EI, In re Petition for approval of tariff revision allowing waiver of service charges for customers affected by natural disasters by Progress Energy Florida, Inc.; and 040958-EI, In re

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

Petition for expedited approval of tariff revisions to allow waiver of service charges for customers whose electric service has been affected by natural disasters or other declared emergencies by Tampa Electric Company.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the tariff modification filed by Gulf Power Company to allow waiver of initial connection fees for new and existing customers who are affected by natural disasters is approved. It is further

ORDERED that this Order approving these tariff revisions shall become final upon issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0850, by the close of the business on the day set forth in the Notice of Further Proceedings attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff revision shall become effective on November 29, 2005. If a protest is filed within 21 days of the issuance of the order, the tariff shall remain in effect pending resolution of the protest. If no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a consummating order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 19th day of December, 2005.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records

(SEAL)

JSB

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

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.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on January 9, 2006.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.