

MESSER CAPARELLO & SELF, P.A.

Attorneys At Law

www.lawfla.com

March 13, 2009

RECEIVED-FPSC  
09 MAR 13 AM 9:59  
COMMISSION  
CLERK

**BY HAND DELIVERY**

Ms. Ann Cole, Director, Commission Clerk  
Office of Commission Clerk  
Room 110, Easley Building  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket 080366-GU

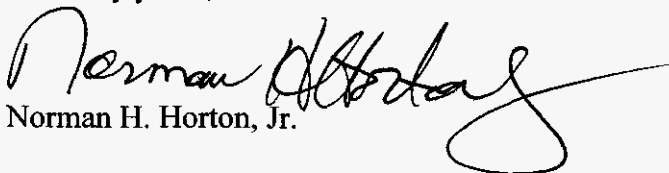
Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company is the Postage Summary as proof of mailing customer notices concerning the customer meetings in the above referenced docket.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely yours,

  
Norman H. Horton, Jr.

NHH/amb  
Enclosures

cc: Ms. Cheryl M. Martin  
Parties of Record

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

Regional Center Office Park / 2618 Centennial Place / Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 15579 / Tallahassee, Florida 32317

Main Telephone: (850) 222-0720 / Fax: (850) 224-4359

02184 MAR 13 8  
FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

PS Form 3602-R - Standard Mail - Permit Imprint

**Final**

**Postage Summary**

<b>Permit Holder:</b>	FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES PO BOX 3395 WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33402-3395 Contact: LAURA SCOTTEN (561) 650 - 8433	<b>Mailing Agent:</b>		<b>Org. For Mailing is Prepared:</b>	TROPICAL MAILING INC 1111 SW 21ST AVE STE 24 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312-3139  Telephone: (954) 581-8006
<b>Permit Holder's Permit:</b>	Permit Imprint 2914	<b>Mailing Agent's Permit:</b>		<b>Processing Category:</b>	Letters
<b>Post Office Of Mailing:</b>	WEST PALM BEACH FL 33416	<b>Mailing Date:</b>	03/05/2009	<b>Weight of Single Piece:</b>	0.0465 lbs.
<b>Total Pieces:</b>	49,384 pcs.	<b>Total Weight:</b>	2,296.3560 lbs.	<b>Total Postage:</b>	\$ 10,083.27
<b>No of Containers:</b>	1' MM Trays: 21	2' MM Trays: 142	2' EMM Trays:	Flat Trays:	Sacks: Pallets: Other:
<b>Comments:</b>					

**Part A : Automation Letters**

Line Number	Entry Discount	Title	Description	Price	Quantity	Postage
A1	None	5-Digit	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.225	15940 pcs.	\$ 3,586.5000
A2	None	3-Digit	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.241	446 pcs.	\$ 107.4860
A3	None	AADC	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.244	333 pcs.	\$ 81.2520
A4	None	Mixed AADC	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.257	3301 pcs.	\$ 848.3570
A9	DSCF	5-Digit	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.183	27320 pcs.	\$ 4,999.5600
A10	DSCF	3-Digit	Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.199	743 pcs.	\$ 147.8570
<b>Part A Postage:</b>						<b>\$ 9,771.0120</b>

**Part D : Nonautomation Letters**

Line Number	Entry Discount	Title	Description	Price	Quantity	Postage
D1	None	AADC	Machinable Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.258	613 pcs.	\$ 158.1540
D2	None	Mixed AADC	Machinable Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.260	125 pcs.	\$ 32.5000
D5	DSCF	AADC	Machinable Letters 3.3 oz (0.2063 lbs) or less	0.216	563 pcs.	\$ 121.6080
<b>Part D Postage:</b>						<b>\$ 312.2620</b>
<b>Total Postage From All Parts:</b>						<b>\$ 10,083.2740</b>
<b>Affixed Postage:</b>						<b>\$ 0.00</b>

**USPS Use Only**

Verification	Request Source	Performance Status	Disposition	Performance Type	Performance Percentage	Additional Postage	Cost Avoidance
eMIR Cursory review		Not Performed	N/A	N/A			
Weigh Entire Mailing	Mailer declared information is in error or incomplete	Performed	N/A	Weigh Verification Error	100%	N/A	N/A
MERLIN	System Requested - Initial mailing schedule	Performed	N/A	Barcode	100%	N/A	N/A
			N/A	Digit String	100%	N/A	N/A
			N/A	Delivery Point Validation	N/A	N/A	N/A
			N/A	Move Update Validation	N/A	N/A	N/A
			N/A	Presort	100%	N/A	N/A
<b>Total:</b>						<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

This mailing has been inspected concerning:

- (1) eligibility for postage prices claimed;
- (2) proper preparation (and presort where required);
- (3) proper completion of postage statement; and
- (4) payment of annual fee (if required).



**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS  
AND  
NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETINGS**

**To: Customers of Florida Public Utilities Company and All Other Interested Parties**  
**RE: Docket No. 080366-GU – Application for a Rate Increase by Florida Public Utilities**

On December 17, 2008, Florida Public Utilities Company (“Company”) filed a Petition with the Florida Public Service Commission seeking approval to increase rates and charges for natural gas service to produce an additional \$9,917,690 in revenues. The Company also requested an interim increase of \$984,054 to be approved and implemented pending final action on the permanent increase. The interim rate increase was granted at the PSC’s February 10, 2009 agenda conference.

The Company believes that this increase is needed in order to enable the Company to continue to provide sufficient, adequate and efficient service and to afford the Company an opportunity to earn a fair rate of return.

The Company has experienced significant increases to costs over the last several years. Despite the Company’s efforts to keep expenses down, many are beyond the control of the Company. The Company has experienced increases in pension costs, medical insurance, compliance programs, maintenance and higher costs associated with the inflationary impacts to our operating expenses and new and replacement utility plant. In addition, to continue to provide reasonable, sufficient service, the Company will need to attract additional capital for new facilities and replacement programs. In order to produce the additional revenues the Company is proposing to increase its rates and charges.

Detailed information on the Company’s request is contained in the minimum filing requirements (“MFRs”) and prefiled testimony, which can be viewed during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday) at the following Company offices.

401 South Dixie Highway  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-5886  
(561) 832-0872

450 South Highway 17-92  
DeBary, Florida 32713  
(386) 668-2600

50 SE Diana Street  
Inglis, Florida 34449  
(352) 447-2790

Additionally, a copy of the MFRs and testimony is available at the headquarters of the Marion County Public Library at the following address:

2720 E. Silver Springs Boulevard  
Ocala, FL 34470

These documents may be viewed during regular hours of the Library. A synopsis of the rate case will be available at these offices and at the main branch of the local public library in each county in the service area.

**CUSTOMER MEETINGS**

Notice is also given that customer meetings have been scheduled in March and April 2009 to allow customers to express their views regarding the quality of service they receive from the Company and other matters pertaining to the requested rate increase. One or more Commissioners may be present at the customer meetings. The dates, times and locations of the customer meetings are as follows:

March 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m.  
Florida Department of Environmental  
Protection  
Southeast District Office  
400 North Congress Avenue, Suite 200  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

April 2, 2009, 11:00 a.m.  
Marion County Commissioners  
Auditorium  
McPherson Government Complex  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ocala, Florida 34471

April 2, 2009, 6:00 p.m.  
City of Deltona  
City Commission Chambers, City Hall  
2345 Providence Blvd.  
Deltona, FL 32725

All customers who wish to comment are urged to be present at the beginning of the meeting, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all of the customers have been heard.

The Office of Public Counsel has intervened in this docket on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida and may have representatives present at the meeting. The Public Counsel may be contacted at:

Office of Public Counsel  
c/o The Florida Legislature  
111 West Madison St.  
Room 812  
Tallahassee FL 32399  
1-800-342-0222

If a named storm or other disaster requires cancellation of the meeting, Commission staff will attempt to give timely direct notice to the parties. Notice of cancellation of the meetings will also be provided on the Commission's website (<http://www.floridapsc.com/>) under the Hot Topics link found on the home page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by calling the Office of the General Counsel at 850-413-6199.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the customer meetings because of physical impairment should call the Commission's Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services at 1-850-413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached by dialing 711 or at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the meetings is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments to the Public Service Commission regarding the quality of service the utility provides and to ask questions and comment on the utility's proposed rates included in this notice as well as other issues. Staff members will answer questions to the extent possible. A representative from the utility has also been invited to respond to questions.

At the beginning of the meeting, procedures will be established for the order of comments. The Public Service Commission will have sign-up sheets, and customers will be called in the order that they sign-up to speak. Public Service Commission staff will be available to coordinate customers' comments and to assist members of the public.

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to staff may do so at the meetings, orally or in writing. Written comments may also be sent to the Commission at the address given at the end of this notice. Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809.

## **PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETINGS**

After the meetings, Public Service Commission staff will prepare a recommendation which is tentatively scheduled to be submitted to the Public Service Commission on April 23, 2009. The Public Service Commission will then vote on staff's recommendation at its May 5, 2009 agenda conference. The Commission will thereafter issue a proposed agency action order containing rates which may be different from those contained in staff's final recommendation. Substantially affected persons have 21 days to protest the Commission's proposed agency action order.

## PRESENT AND PROPOSED RATES

The utility's present and proposed rates are set out on the attached Appendix A. These rates are preliminary and subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners. As a comparison, a residential customer using 20 therms would currently pay \$33.67 including a purchased gas adjustment ("PGA") of \$.80 per therm. If the proposed charges in this docket are approved, a residential customer using 20 therms will pay \$38.56 including a PGA. The PGA varies from month to month depending on the cost of fuel and the specific impact of the proposed revisions will vary between customers depending on usage.

## SCHEDULE OF THE CASE

The Commission granted the Company's request for interim rate relief on February 10, 2009, and is scheduled to consider its request for permanent rate relief on May 5, 2009, in Room 148, Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

The following is the current rate case schedule established by the Commission that contains all the critical events and dates. This schedule is subject to change by the Commission.

Customer meeting, West Palm Beach	March 26, 2009
Customer meeting, Ocala	April 2, 2009
Customer meeting, Deltona	April 2, 2009
Staff Recommendation on Final Rates	April 23, 2009
Agenda Conference on Final Rates	May 5, 2009
Proposed Agency Action Order on Final Rates	May 26, 2009

Any customer comments regarding the Company's service or the proposed rate increase should be addressed to:

Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Such comments should refer to Docket No. 080366-GU, which is the docket number that has been assigned to this proceeding.

If you wish to contact the Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call (toll free) or write the Florida Public Service Commission's Division of Service, Safety and Consumer Assistance:

Division of Service, Safety and Consumer Assistance  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850  
1-800-342-3552 (Toll Free Number)

Company personnel may be contacted to answer questions concerning the rate request at the address shown on your gas service bill, or by calling the phone numbers listed above for the various locations.

This notice was prepared by the utility with the assistance of the Commission staff for distribution by the utility to its customers.

**APPENDIX A  
FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY  
COMPARISON OF PRESENT AND PROPOSED RATES**

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<b>Residential Service: Standard (RS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.48340	\$.52786
<b>Residential Standby Generator Service (RS-GS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 18.72	\$ 22.45
Energy Charge per therm	\$.48340 - over 22.17 therms/mth	\$.52786 - over 19.80 therms/mth
<b>General Service 1: under 600 therms per month (GS-1)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.32107	\$.41265
<b>General Service Transportation Service 1: under 600 therms per month (GSTS-1)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.32107	\$.41265
Transportation Administration Charge per month	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.50
<b>General Service 2: equal to or over 600 therms per month (GS-2)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 15.00	\$ 33.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.32107	\$.41265
<b>General Service Transportation Service 2: equal to or over 600 therms per month (GSTS-2)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 15.00	\$ 33.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.32107	\$.41265
Transportation Administration Charge per month	\$4.50	\$4.50
<b>Commercial Standby Generator Service (CS-GS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	NA	\$ 36.31
Energy Charge per therm	NA	\$.41265 - over 39.52 therms/mth
<b>Large Volume Service (LVS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 45.00	\$ 90.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.23809	\$.37897
<b>Large Volume Transportation Service: less than 50,000 therms (LVTS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 45.00	\$ 90.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.23809	\$.37897
Transportation Administration Charge per month	\$4.50	\$4.50
<b>Large Volume Transportation Service: equal to or greater than 50,000 therms (LVTS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 45.00	\$ 90.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.23809	\$.37897
Transportation Administration Charge per month	\$ 20.50	\$ 20.50
Telemetry Maintenance Charge per month	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<b>Interruptible Service (IS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$ .10039	\$ .27106
Telemetry Maintenance Charge per month	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
<b>Interruptible Transportation Service (ITS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
Energy Charge per therm	\$.10039	\$.27106
Transportation Administration Charge per month	\$ 20.50	\$ 20.50
Telemetry Maintenance Charge per month	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
<b>Gas Lighting Service (GLS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month (1)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Energy Charge per therm	\$ .17689	\$.25552
<b>Gas Lighting Service Transportation Service (GLSTS)</b>		
Customer Charge per month (1)	\$0	\$0
Energy Charge per therm	\$ .17689	\$ .25552
Transportation Administration Charge per month	(2)	(2)
Telemetry Maintenance Charge per month	(2)	(2)

- (1) For customers not receiving service under another rate schedule, the equivalent substitute rate will be applicable.
- (2) This charge will equal the Transportation Administration Charge and Telemetry Maintenance Charge under the corresponding rate schedule.

Miscellaneous Service Charges		CURRENT			PROPOSED		
		RS & RS-GS	GS-1, GS-2, CS-GS, GSTS-1 & GSTS-2	LVS, LVTS, IS & ITS	RS & RS-GS	GS-1, GS-2, CS-GS, GSTS-1 & GSTS-2	LVS, LVTS, IS & ITS
Establishment of Service	Regularly Scheduled	\$42.00	\$60.00	\$90.00	\$52.00	\$75.00	\$112.00
	Same Day or Outside Normal Business Hours	\$56.00	\$79.00	\$119.00	\$69.00	\$96.00	\$144.00
Change of Account (Read Meter Only)	Regularly Scheduled	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00
	Same Day or Outside Normal Business Hours	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$29.00
Reconnection After Disconnection for Non-Pay	Regularly Scheduled	\$60.00	\$78.00	\$108.00	\$81.00	\$104.00	\$141.00
	Same Day or Outside Normal Business Hours	\$74.00	\$97.00	\$137.00	\$98.00	\$125.00	\$173.00
Bill Collection in Lieu of Disconnection for Non-Pay		\$16.00	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Failed Trip Charge-applies when customer fails to keep scheduled appointment with the Company's employee, agent, or representative	Regularly Scheduled	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00
	Same Day or Outside Normal Business Hours	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$29.00
Temporary Disconnection of Service for Cause or at Customer's Request	Regularly Scheduled	NA	NA	NA	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$29.00
	Same Day or Outside Normal Business Hours	NA	NA	NA	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
Worthless Check Charge	The service charge for each worthless check shall be determined in accordance with Section 68.065, Florida Statutes. Such service charge shall be added to the customer's bill for gas service for each check dishonored by the bank upon which it is drawn.						
Late Payment Charge	A bill shall be considered past due upon the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of mailing or other delivery thereof by Company. The balance of all past due charges for services rendered are subject to a Late Payment Charge of 1.5% or \$5.00, whichever is greater, except the accounts of federal, state, and local governmental entities, and agencies. A Late Payment Charge shall be applied to the accounts of federal, state, and local government entities at a rate no greater than allowed, and in a manner permitted by applicable law.						