

Robert L. McGee, Jr.
Regulatory & Pricing Manager

One Energy Place
Pensacola, Florida 32520-0780

Tel 850 444 6530
Fax 850.444.6026
RLMCGEE@southernco.com



February 2, 2016

Ms. Carlotta Stauffer
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee FL 32399-0868

Re: Docket No. 150248-EG – Gulf Power Company’s Petition for Approval of
Community Solar Pilot Program

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

This correspondence concerns Gulf Power Company’s proposed community solar offering in Docket No. 150248-EG. As part of this filing, Gulf Power has requested authority to terminate its existing Rate Rider PV. The PV Rider is an optional rate rider that allows customers to purchase one or more 100-watt “blocks” of photovoltaic energy for a monthly charge of \$6.00 per 100-watt block. Participating customers must commit to an initial term of five years. Participating customers are not charged under the PV Rider until the Company receives sufficient customer commitments to cover the cost of constructing a solar facility or purchasing solar energy from a third party. As explained in Gulf’s petition, the Company’s experience with the PV Rider has demonstrated that customer interest in the existing program is relatively low. Gulf has designed the proposed community solar program in an attempt to overcome some of the barriers to customer interest in the existing program. For example, unlike the existing PV Rider, the community solar program will enable the Company to commence construction of an initial solar facility while actively signing customers to subscriptions. Gulf believes that the commitment to build an initial facility is an important attribute of the marketability of the program. The proposed program also provides subscribers with a monetary incentive in the form of monthly bill credits. This key attribute is absent from the existing PV Rider but is one that Gulf’s customer research indicates is important to customers. For the avoidance of doubt, Gulf’s request and desire is to terminate the existing PV Rider, irrespective of the Commission’s decision on the community solar program. If the community solar program is not approved as proposed by Gulf, the Company

would want the flexibility to propose alternative solar program designs which, in all likelihood, would differ from the existing PV Rider. Termination of the existing PV Rider avoids potential confusion about solar program offerings at Gulf Power in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert L. McGee, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert L. McGee, Jr.
Regulatory and Pricing Manager

md

cc : Beggs and Lane
Jeffrey A. Stone, Esquire
Office of General Counsel
Theresa Tan
Office of Public Counsel
John Truitt