## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application of Florida Power )
Corporation to Issue and Sell )
Securities During 1990 Pursuant to )
Section 366.04, Florida Statutes, and )
Chapter 25-8, Florida Administrative )
Code.

DOCKET NO. 891240-EI ORDER NO. 22241 ISSUED: 11/29/89

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL McK. WILSON, Chairman THOMAS M. BEARD BETTY EASLEY JOHN T. HERNDON

## ORDER AUTHORIZING FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION TO ISSUE AND SELL LONG-TERM AND SHORT-TERM SECURITIES

BY THE COMMISSION:

On October 23, 1989, Florida Power Corporation (FPC) filed a petition with this Commission seeking authorization to issue and sell long-term securities, as well as incur short-term debt during calendar year 1990. Specifically, FPC requests authority to issue and sell up to a maximum principal amount of \$300 million in long-term debt obligations during 1990, and have outstanding at any given time during 1990, a maximum aggregate principal amount of \$300 million in short-term borrowings. FPC says that while it anticipates that its combined long and short-term financing requirements will not exceed \$300 million in 1990, the utility is requesting authorization for these amounts so it will have the needed flexibility to minimize its financing costs as financial market conditions change.

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FPC advises that its long-term debt obligations may take the form of first mortgage bonds, debentures, notes, installment contracts, or other forms of debt obligations or credit arrangements with maturities ranging from one to thirty-five years. Long-term debt may be issued through negotiated underwritten public offerings, public offerings at competitive biddings, private sales, or sales through agents, and may be issued in both domestic and foreign markets.

FPC says that its commercial paper will be for terms up to but not exceeding nine months from the date of issuance. advises that it has established lines of credit and uncommitted bid facilities with a group of banks under which short-term borrowings may be made by the issuance of unsecured promissory notes. Furthermore, FPC advises that these short-term notes will not be extendable or renewable, nor will they contain any other provision for automatic "rollover", either at the option of the holder or the utility. FPC proposes to sell the commercial paper at a discount, with a commission being paid to the commercial paper dealer, and an interest rate comparable to other interest rates being paid in the commercial paper market. The interest rate on the proposed borrowings will be the interest rate available to the preferred corporate customers of the lending bank in effect at the time of issuance and may be subject to change either up or down, at the time the preferred customer rate changes, or may bear an interest rate to be negotiated at the time of issuance. The utility says that it has outstanding \$39 million of Medium Term Notes and First Mortgage Bonds that mature in 1990 and a \$125 million variable rate term loan that it obtained in May, 1989 and which is due to be paid in May, 1991. FPC may choose to refinance the maturing Medium Term Notes and First Mortgage Bonds, and to repay the variable rate term loan during 1990 through the sale First Mortgage Bonds and the Medium Term Notes or a The utility says that both the First combination thereof. Mortgage Bonds and the Medium Term Notes are currently registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 415 (Self Registration) under the Securities Act of In addition, the utility plans to refund previously issued short-term unsecured promissory notes and commercial paper which mature from time to time on a regular basis.

FPC's petition also states that the net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the additional securities will be added to the utility's general funds and may be used for such purposes as providing additional electric facilities, repaying maturing

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long-term debt and short-term unsecured debt, and other corporate purposes. FPC contends that the funds derived from these additional securities will provide the utility with the financing capability in order to have the needed flexibility to minimize its financing costs as financial market conditions change, and that such proposed issues and sales are necessary and proper to enable FPC to perform its role as a public utility.

The utility estimates that the costs for its 1990 construction program will approximate \$287.5 million in the following categories: \$83.4 million for generation facilities; \$49.3 million for transmission facilities; \$114.7 million for distribution facilities; \$6.4 million for nuclear fuel; and \$7.8 million of AFUDC and \$25.9 million for other additions and improvements. FPC notes that these figures are estimates which are subject to periodic review and revision to adjust for such factors as changing economic conditions, environmental requirements, regulatory matters, and changing customer usage patterns.

After due consideration, we find that Florida Power Corporation's petition for authorization to issue and sell long-term and short-term securities is reasonable and should be granted for the amounts, and under the terms and conditions below.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Florida Power Corporation is hereby authorized to issue and sell short-term unsecured securities during 1990 under the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Florida Power Corporation is hereby authorized to issue and sell short-term securities or borrow short-term from banks in one or more transactions, or of one or more types, over a period of 12 months commencing January 1, 1990.
- 2. Florida Power Corporation shall file with the Commission on or before the tenth-day of the first month of each quarter hereafter a statement showing the total amount of short-term borrowings outstanding at the end of the previous quarter.

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> The maximum aggregate principal amount of all outstanding short-term borrowings at any given time during 1990 shall not exceed \$300 million.

It is further

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the application of Florida Power Corporation for authorization to issue and sell or otherwise incur up to \$300 million of long-term debt securities and obligations during 1990 is approved. It is further

ORDERED that Florida Power Corporation shall file a consummating report in compliance with the Rule 25-8.009, Florida Administrative Code, within (90) days after the issuance of any securities pursuant to the authorization of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the foregoing authorization relates only to Florida Power Corporation's issuance of securities for utility purposes; provided however that nothing contained in the Order is intended to create a duty or obligation on the part of a purchaser of any security authorized hereunder to make inquiry into the use of the proceeds of the sale of the security. It is further

ORDERED that the foregoing authorization is without prejudice to the authority of this Commission with respect to rates, service, accounts, valuations, estimates or determinations or costs, or any other matter whatsoever now pending or which may come before this Commission as provided in Section 366.04, Florida Statutes.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 29th day of NOVEMBER , 1989

STEVE TRIBBLE, Difector

DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

(SEAL)

MRC