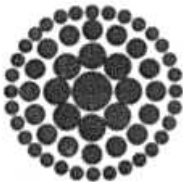


UNITED STATES  
FILE 0001



**Florida  
Power**  
CORPORATION

**JAMES A. MCGEE**  
SENIOR COUNSEL

September 10, 1996

*961082-EI*

Ms. Blanca S. Bayó  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

**RE: Petition for Exemption from the Requirement to  
provide self-contained meter enclosures  
free of charge**

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing are an original and fifteen copies of the Petition as stated  
above.

Please acknowledge your receipt of the above filing on the enclosed copy of this  
letter and return to the undersigned. Also enclosed is a 3.5 inch diskette  
containing the above-referenced document in WordPerfect format. Thank you for  
your assistance in this matter.

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMU \_\_\_\_\_
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- ED \_\_\_\_\_
- EF \_\_\_\_\_
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- CF \_\_\_\_\_
- FA \_\_\_\_\_
- SE \_\_\_\_\_
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

JAM/kp

enclosures

RECEIVED & FILED

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

Very truly yours,

James A. McGee

MAIL ROOM  
11 AM 10 11 96

RECEIVED  
FLORIDA PUBLIC  
SERVICE COMMISSION  
GENERAL OFFICE

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09665 SEP 11 96

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for an exemption from the requirement to provide self-contained meter enclosures free of charge by Florida Power Corporation.

Docket No. 961082-ET

Submitted for filing:  
September 10, 1996

**P E T I T I O N**

Florida Power Corporation ("Florida Power") hereby petitions the Florida Public Service Commission ("the Commission") for an exemption from the requirement to provide self-contained meter enclosures to customers free of charge and for approval of a tariff revision reflecting this exemption. In support hereof, Florida Power states as follows:

**Background**

By Order No. 6674, issued May 20, 1975 in Docket No. 73632-EU, the Commission directed regulated electric utilities to develop uniform methods for determining the costs associated with providing underground residential distribution and required these utilities to provide meter sockets and bases, referred to as self-contained meter enclosures, at no cost to contractors of residential properties. By Order No. 6794, issued July 22, 1975 in Docket No. 74806-EU, the Commission directed Florida Power to comply with the provisions of Order No. 6674.

The Commission has previously granted an exemption from the requirement of Order No. 6674 to provide self-contained meter enclosures at no charge to

09665 SEP 11 1996

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Florida Power and Light Company (Order No. 18893, issued February 22, 1988 in Docket No. 870225-EI), Tampa Electric Company (Order No. PSC-95-0132-FOF-EI, issued January 26, 1995 in Docket No. 941250-EI), and Gulf Power Company (Order No. PSC-96-0022-FOF-EI, issued January 8, 1996 in Docket No. 951314-EI). Florida Power now seeks similar treatment.<sup>1</sup>

### Discussion

Florida Power proposes that, effective January 1, 1997, it no longer be required to provide self-contained meter enclosures. Requiring customers to obtain their own meter enclosures will appropriately shift the associated costs to the new customers responsible for causing the costs to be incurred.

In 1995 Florida Power added \$862,292 to rate base for the cost incurred to provide self-contained meter enclosures to its customers. The amount included in rate base for meter enclosures will continue to be written off on the appropriate schedule. Granting this petition will eliminate any future accruals to that amount. In addition, such action will have no material effect on earnings or rates, given the relatively small dollar amount involved compared to Florida Power's jurisdictional rate base of approximately \$3.4 billion (year-end 1995).

Florida Power believes that the availability of quality self-contained meter enclosures from electrical suppliers will be sufficient to satisfy market requirements when it discontinues supplying the enclosures and is currently

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<sup>1</sup> In its recent Gulf Power decision, the Commission recognized that it had the option of modifying Order No. 6674 by deleting the requirement to provide self-contained meter enclosures at no cost, rather than granting exemptions on a utility-by-utility basis. Now that all four of the utilities subject to Order No. 6674 have sought relief from this requirement, the Commission may wish to pursue this option.

working with major suppliers throughout its service area to ensure an orderly transition. Florida Power will also provide a listing of acceptable meter enclosures to its customers and their contractors.

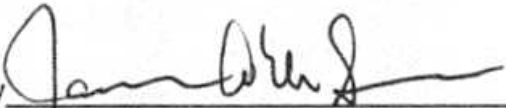
Concurrent with the customers' responsibility to obtain their own meter enclosures will be their responsibility to maintain the equipment. However, in the event of a service outage related to the meter enclosure, Florida Power will temporarily restore service, if possible, and advise the customer of his or her responsibility to repair or replace the enclosure.

Because the practice of providing self-contained meter enclosures free of charge has been in effect for over 20 years, Florida Power believes it to be appropriate to reflect the change in this practice in its tariff. Attachment A hereto contains a revised tariff Section 5.01, *Installation and Maintenance of Meters*, of Florida Power's General Rules and Regulations Governing Electric Service which advises customers on the new practice described herein. Attachment B contains the revised tariff sheet in legislative format.

WHEREFORE, Florida Power Corporation respectfully requests that the Commission exempt it from the requirement of Order No. 6674 to provide self-contained meter enclosures and approve the revised tariff sheet contained in Attachment A hereto, effective January 1, 1997.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL  
FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION

By 

James A. McGee  
Post Office Box 14042  
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-4042  
Telephone: (813) 866-5184  
Facsimile: (813) 866-4931

**Petition of Florida Power Corporation  
For Exemption From Requirement To  
Provide Self-Contained Meter Enclosures**

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**ATTACHMENT A**

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**REVISED TARIFF SHEET NO. 4.050**



PART V

METERS

**5.01 Installation and Maintenance of Meters.**

The Company will install and maintain, at its own expense, such standard meter or meters, and other metering equipment, as may be necessary to measure all electric energy sold to the Customer on a metered basis. If a self-contained meter enclosure is required it will be the customer's responsibility to furnish such equipment. All self-contained meter enclosures will be maintained or replaced by the customer. However, in the event of a service outage related to the meter enclosure, Florida Power will temporarily restore service, if possible, and advise the customer of his or her responsibility to repair or replace the enclosure. Title to meters and metering equipment shall be and remain in the Company, excluding self-contained meter enclosures. Technical specifications and requirements for metering, and self-contained meter enclosures are provided in the "Requirements for Electric Service and Meter Installations" contained in the Appendix.

**5.02 Meter Seals.**

All meters will be sealed by a representative of the Company. Such meter seals must not be removed, destroyed or tampered with by any person other than an authorized representative of the Company.

**5.03 Testing of Meters.**

Meters will be tested in accordance with regulations of the Florida Public Service Commission.

**5.04 Tampering with Meters.**

Unauthorized connections to and tampering with the Company's meters or metering equipment, or indications or evidences thereof, shall subject the Customer to prosecution under the laws of the State of Florida, to adjustment of prior bills for services rendered and liability for payment of the adjusted amount, and to liability for reimbursement to the Company of all extra expenses incurred by the Company as a result thereof, and to discontinuance of service until such indebtedness has been paid.

**5.05 Provisions for Energy Pulse Data.**

The Company upon request will provide for energy and/or time pulses to be transmitted from the Company's metering equipment to energy management systems. The Customer shall reimburse the Company for any cost associated with the installation of equipment solely used to supply pulses to the Customer. The billing of demand and/or energy will be based upon the Company's meter readings and not upon the pulse data being supplied.

ISSUED BY: W. C. Slusser, Jr., Director, Pricing Department

EFFECTIVE:

**Petition of Florida Power Corporation  
For Exemption From Requirement To  
Provide Self-Contained Meter Enclosures**

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**ATTACHMENT B**

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**REVISED TARIFF SHEET NO. 4.050  
(Legislative Format)**





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