State of Florida



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DATE: August 8, 1997

FROM: Timothy J. Devlin, Director, Division of Auditing & Financial Analysis Docket No. 970410-EP- Proposal to extend plan for the recording of certain expenses RE: for the years 1998 and 1999 for Florida Power & Light Company

This docket was deferred from the July 15, 1997 agenda conference. On August 6, 1997, Ameristeel Corporation filed two motions and a request for oral argument. Upon review of the filings, staff believes we should proceed to agenda on August 18, 1997. We believe it is necessary to have a decision on the procedural and legal issues. We have contacted FPL and have requested an expedited response to Ameristeel's filings. If the response is received in time, we will address the pleadings filed on August 6, 1997 in the recommendation.

As it currently stands, the original dates for hearing in this docket cannot be met. If a hearing is necessary, adequate time is needed for testimony, discovery, a hearing and recommendation for final action by the end of the year in order to protect the interests of the ratepayers.

We are requesting permission to file a late recommendation on Thursday, August 14, 1997 for the August 18, 1997 agenda conference.

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