BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Generic investigation into the aggregate electric utility reserve margin planned for Peninsular Florida

Docket No. 981890-EU

Filed 9/16/99



MOTION FOR ORDER TO COMPEL DISCOVERY

Intervenor, Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation, ("LEAF"), files this Motion to Compel Responses to LEAF's First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-12) by Florida Power and Light ("FPL") and as grounds therefore states:

Background

- 1. LEAF filed its First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-12) to FPL on August 25, 1999.
- 2. FPL filed its Objections to LEAF's First Set of Interrogatories to FPL on September 7 (and served LEAF by U.S. mail). FPL has objected to each of LEAF's twelve interrogatories.

FPL's general objection

3. The Commission has ruled that LEAF is a party to this formal evidentiary proceeding and that all parties may participate in identifying issues, conducting discovery, and presenting testimony, exhibits, and post-hearing filings. (Order Nos. PSC-99-0839-PCO-EU; PSC-99-0760-PCO-EU; PSC-99-1274-PCO-EU; and PSC-99-1716-PCO-EU). FPL's general objection now suggests that the Commission lacks authority to allow such participation. The Commission has ruled that its jurisdiction is not so sparse. FPL's general objection should be summarily rejected. (FPL restates this general objection in its specific objections to LEAF Interrogatory Numbers 1 through 12. By this reference LEAF adopts the argument in this paragraph to each such restatement by FPL).

FPL's specific objections

Interrogatories 1, 2, &3

AFA APP

CAF CMU

CTR ÉAG

EG

MAS OPC

AI SEC VAW STH

- 4. LEAF Interrogatory numbers 1, 2 & 3 ask, in effect: Does FPL assign an availability factor to a plant that is available during peak 50% of the time -- and if so, what factor is assigned; or if not why not.
- 5. FPL asserts that the reference to a plant that is "available during peak 50% of the time" is unclear since the peak is not defined as one or more periods and no duration is given. The meaning of the phrase is clear. Issue 3A in this case (from the list attached to Order No. PSC-99-1274-PCO-EU) addresses the capacity available "at time of peak". For the purpose of

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responding to the subject LEAF interrogatories, FPL should assume the period/duration of the peak referred to therein equates to the period/duration of the peak referred to in Issue 3A. Presumably, from FPL's perspective, this would be the same peak period(s)/duration(s) that the Company used to conduct the plant availability assessments set forth in the initial testimony filed herein by FPL witness Roberto R. Denis (which states FPL has assessed plant availability during peak¹ for "both the Summer and Winter peak load" p. 17, line 3.)

- 6. FPL claims, without explanation -- and despite the specific definition LEAF has provided -- that the meaning of "assign an availability factor" is unclear. LEAF's interrogatories define "availability factor" as "the percentage of time that a power generation plant is capable of providing service to meet the Company's load, whether or not that plant is actually is in service, expressed as a percent available for the period under consideration." The verb "assign" is commonly understood to mean attribute, associate, or credit. For the purposes of responding to said LEAF interrogatories, FPL should state whether it would assign an availability factor to a plant with the availability described (i.e., a plant that can provide service during peak 50% of the time) and, if so, state what that factor would be, or, if not, state why no factor would be assigned. Interrogatory 4
- 7. FPL claims it is unclear how availability is related to dispatchability. The question does not ask how availability is related to dispatchability, nor is it's meaning unclear. It asks if FPL considers a plant that is available 50% of the time to be dispatchable. In responding to this question, FPL should assume the obvious: i.e., that a plant which is never available is never dispatchable and that a plant which is available 100% of the time is dispatchable 100% of the time -- and state whether the company would consider a plant that is available 50% of the time to be dispatchable.

Interrogatories 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9

8. LEAF Interrogatories 5 - 9 ask, in effect, whether, and if so, how, or if not why not, FPL calculates the capacity value of energy service facilities for resource planning purposes. Despite the specific definition contained in LEAF's interrogatories, FPL claims, without explanation, that the meaning of "capacity value for energy service facilities" is unclear. The meaning is clear. LEAF's interrogatories define "capacity value" as "the continuous load-

¹FPL Witness' 's testimony makes the following references to peak periods so assessed: "the amount of capacity (MW) available at the peak hour" (p. 18, line 21 and p. 19, lines 1 and 4); "peak hour capabilities" (p. 19, line 21); and "the capacity available at peak" (p. 23, line 21).

carrying ability of an energy service facility, expressed in megawatts (MW) or megavolt-amperes (MVA) of generation, transmission, or other electrical equipment or in MW-reductions and MVA-reductions for demand-side resources." FPL's vague and unexplained claim does not excuse FPL from responding to LEAF's question.

Interrogatory 10

- 9. The answer to LEAF Interrogatory 10 is both relevant, and calculated to lead to information that is relevant, in this docket. Interrogatory 10 asks FPL to state the lowest, the mean, and the highest, price that it paid for wholesale capacity and energy purchased (other than pursuant to a contract with an Independent Power Producer) over the past three years. FPL's payment for such capacity and energy determines the relative cost of energy service options -- and must be known to enable evaluation of energy service options that could provide equal or greater reliability for lesser cost. The reliability and cost of energy service options is relevant to the Commission's consideration of a reserve margin or other reliability criterion to best to meet the energy service reliability needs of Peninsula Florida customers (and to Issues, 1, 2, & 3/particularly 3B, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, &19 on the list attached to Order No. PSC-99-1274-PCO-EU).
- 10. FPL's claim that the information sought is confidential and proprietary does not justify a failure to respond. The Order Establishing Procedure (Order No. PSC-99-0760-PCO-EU) directs parties to treat "any information provided pursuant to a discovery request for which proprietary confidential business information status is requested" as "confidential" and makes further provisions (as do the Commission's rules) to protect proprietary confidential business information from disclosure. Were there additional need, FPL could also, though it has not done so, seek further protection through a non-disclosure agreement such as LEAF and FPL have entered in prior proceedings.
- 11. FPL claims responding would be unduly burdensome since it has not previously compiled the information sought. Even if FPL has not previously compiled the cost information LEAF seeks for its own evaluation, the company is not excused from responding to LEAF's interrogatory since Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.340 (adopted by reference in 28-106.206, F.A.C. and applicable in this proceeding via Order Nos. PSC-99-0839-PCO-EU; PSC-99-0760-PCO-EU; PSC-99-1274-PCO-EU; and PSC-99-1716-PCO-EU), authorizes the Company to produce the underlying records upon a showing that the burden of deriving the answer is substantially the same for LEAF as for FPL.

Interrogatories 11 & 12

- 12. FPL's restatement of its general objection is the only objection to these interrogatories. Paragraph two, as noted therein, adopts LEAF's response to this objection.
- 13. LEAF has incurred expenses in bringing this motion.
- 14. LEAF has not been been able to reach counsel for FPL to ascertain FPL's position on this motion.

WHEREFORE, LEAF moves that the Commission issue an order directing FPL to answer LEAF's interrogatories and reimburse LEAF's expenses in bringing this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the original and ten true copies of the foregoing Motion for Order to Compel Discovery were hand delivered to the Florida Public Service Commission, Division of Records and Reporting, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950, and that a true copies was sent by U.S. mail, or hand delivered (when indicated by*) this 16th day of September, 1999 to:

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