

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of  
a pilot program for small  
photovoltaic systems by Tampa  
Electric Company.

DOCKET NO. 000758-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-00-2102-TRF-EI  
ISSUED: November 6, 2000

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition  
of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman  
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.  
LILA A. JABER  
BRAULIO L. BAEZ

ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR APPROVAL FOR A PILOT PROGRAM FOR  
INTERCONNECTION OF SMALL PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 22, 2000, Tampa Electric Company (TECO) petitioned the Commission to approve a pilot agreement to interconnect, to its system, small photovoltaic systems (SPSs) smaller than 10 KW. TECO's proposed SPS agreement is found in Tariff Sheet Nos. 8.015 and 8.900 through 8.980. The tariff was suspended in Order no. PSC-00-1509-PCO-2000 issued on August 18, 2000. The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter through Sections 366.06, 366.051, and 366.975, Florida Statutes.

An SPS is a solar generating system which contains solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and other electrical equipment for making the physical connections to the normal wiring system of a home. The total peak rated output of this equipment, for purposes of the proposed SPS agreement, may not exceed 10 KW peak rated output. An SPS is primarily intended to offset part or all of a customer's electricity requirements.

The proposed SPS agreement will be available for three years as a pilot program. The pilot program will allow TECO to gather information about the operation of its electric system in parallel with customer-owned SPS generating systems. TECO may install, at its own expense, additional metering or equipment for the purpose of determining the effect of the interconnection on TECO's system.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

14309 NOV-68

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

The SPS agreement contains the interconnection and operational requirements that must be met prior to TECO providing service to customers who want to install SPSs. To be eligible for interconnection under TECO's proposed SPS agreement, the customer must demonstrate compliance with the following criteria:

- IEEE-929-2000, *Recommended Practice for Utility Interface of Photovoltaic (PV) Systems*, published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE);
- UL-1741, *Standard for Safety for Static Inverters and Charge Controllers for Use in Photovoltaic Power Systems*, published by Underwriters Laboratories (UL); and,
- The National Electric Code (NEC), as periodically issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

The proposed SPS agreement requires that the customer provide proof of liability insurance, in an amount not less than \$100,000, prior to interconnecting to TECO's system. This requirement may be satisfied by a standard homeowner's insurance policy.

Realistically, there may be times when the customer's demand for electricity is completely offset by the electrical energy produced by the SPS, with excess energy flowing back into TECO's system. Under the SPS agreement, SPS customers will be compensated for all electricity exported to TECO's system. The rate paid for this SPS export is equal to 90% of the per-kWh premium included in TECO's Pilot Green Energy Rate Rider (Tariff Sheet No. 6.400), a Commission-approved green pricing program. Currently, the Green Energy Rate Rider pays a 10¢/kWh premium for green energy. Therefore, SPS customers will be paid 9¢/kWh for energy sold to TECO. The amounts paid by TECO to SPS customers will be offset by revenues collected through the Green Energy Rate Rider.

TECO's proposed SPS agreement is a reasonable attempt to set out the technical and operational requirements for interconnecting customer-owned SPS systems. We therefore grant TECO's petition. The effective date for the agreement is October 17, 2000, the date we approved the petition.

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Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Tampa Electric Company's Petition for Approval for a Pilot Program for Interconnection of Small Photovoltaic Systems is granted for the reasons stated in the body of this order. It is further

ORDERED that the pilot program and associated tariff shall become effective on October 17, 2000. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this  
6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2000.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

By: Kay Flynn  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records

( S E A L )

MKS

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice

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should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on November 27, 2000.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

**RAR Official Filing:**

**11/6/00\*\*\*\*\* 12:27 PM\*\*\*\*\*Linda Williams\*\*\*\*\*1**

**Linda Williams**

2102-TRF

**From:** Janice Banka  
**Sent:** Monday, November 06, 2000 12:29 PM  
**To:** RAR - Orders-Notices  
**Cc:** June Ariola  
**Subject:** Docket No. 000768-GU, #000817-GU, ~~#007580-EI~~, 001186-EI,

4 Pgs

These four orders have been copied over to GCorders.  
The document file names are: 000768o1.mks, 000817or.mks, 000758o2.mks and 001186or.mks.  
These orders will not be hand-delivered since they have no attachments not on line or signed by a Commissioner.

Thanks, hope this covers it. "J"

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