BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for authority to issue and sell securities pursuant to Section 366.04, F.S. and Chapter 25-8, F.A.C., by Florida Public Utilities Company.

DOCKET NO. 011398-GU
ORDER NO. PSC-01-2496-FOF-GU
ISSUED: December 21, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

ORDER GRANTING FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY AUTHORITY TO ISSUE AND SELL SECURITIES DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2002

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to Chapter 25-8, Florida Administrative Code, and Section 366.04, Florida Statutes, Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC) seeks permission to issue, sell and/or exchange any combination of the long-term debt, short-term notes and equity securities described below and/or to assume liabilities or obligations as guarantor, endorser or surety in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$75 million during calendar year 2002.

The long-term debt securities may include first mortgage bonds, private activity bonds, medium-term notes, debentures convertible or exchangeable debentures, notes, convertible or exchangeable notes, or other straight debt or hybrid debt securities, secured and unsecured, with maturities ranging from one to one hundred years.

FPUC seeks authority to issue up to \$50,000,000 of short-term

15900 DEC 21 E

TOO HILL MEDIC TOLERN

ORDER NO. PSC-01-2496-FOF-GU DOCKET NO. 011398-GU PAGE 2

notes to give FPUC financial flexibility with respect to future permanent financing. At June 30, 2001, the short-term notes interest rate was 4.46%. The equity securities would be common stock issued at Fair Market Value less any issuance costs.

It appears that FPUC has complied with the requirements of Section 366.04, Florida Statutes and Chapter 25-8, Florida Administrative Code, in applying for the authority to issue and sell securities. Therefore, FPUC's application is hereby granted.

Our approval of the proposed issuance and/or sale of securities by FPUC does not indicate specific approval of any rates, terms, or conditions associated with the issuance. Such matters are properly reserved for review by the Commission within the context of a rate proceeding. Our approval of the issuance of securities constitutes approval only as to the legality of the issue. In approving the subject financing, we retain the right to disallow any of the costs incurred for ratemaking purposes.

For monitoring purposes, this docket shall remain open to allow the Company to file, and the Commission to review, its Consummation Report, at which time it shall be closed administratively.

Based upon the foregoing, it is therefore

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Florida Public Utilities Company's Application for Authority to Issue and Sell Securities During Calendar Year 2002, pursuant to Section 366.04, Florida Statutes and Chapter 25-8, Florida Administrative Code, is granted. It is further

ORDERED that Florida Public Utilities Company is authorized to issue, sell and/or exchange any combination of the long-term debt, short-term notes and equity securities described above and/or to assume liabilities or obligations as guarantor, endorser or surety in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$75 million during calendar year 2002. The maximum principal amount of long-term debt securities issued will not total more than \$75 million. The

ORDER NO. PSC-01-2496-FOF-GU DOCKET NO. 011398-GU PAGE 3

maximum principal amount of short-term debt, at any one time, will not total more than \$50 million. It is further

ORDERED that Florida Public Utilities Company shall file a consummation report in accordance with Rule 25-8.009, Florida Administrative Code, within 90 days after the end of any fiscal year in which it issues securities. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open to monitor the issuance and/or sale of securities until the company submits and we have reviewed the Consummation Report, at which time it shall be closed administratively.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this $\underline{21st}$ day of $\underline{December}$, $\underline{2001}$.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services

D37.

Kay Flynn, Chief

Bureau of Records and Hearing

Services

(SEAL)

LHD

ORDER NO. PSC-01-2496-FOF-GU DOCKET NO. 011398-GU PAGE 4

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk Administrative Services and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.