

PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM
BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Docket No. 080318-GU

**In Re: Petition for rate increase
by Peoples Gas System**

**Submitted for Filing:
August 11, 2008**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
AND EXHIBITS OF:**

**LEWIS M. BINSWANGER
On Behalf of Peoples Gas System**

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A. My name is Lewis M. Binswanger and my business address is 702 N.
3 Franklin Street, Tampa, Florida 33602.

4 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

5 A. I am employed by Peoples Gas System ("Peoples" or the "Company") as
6 Director, Strategic Planning and Regulatory.

7 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF OUTLINE OF YOUR
8 EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND BUSINESS EXPERIENCE.

9 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1982
10 from the University of Texas at El Paso. I am a registered professional
11 engineer in the State of Texas. In 1998, I completed a Finance and
12 Accounting Executive Program at the Wharton School of the University of
13 Pennsylvania.

14 I have diverse business experience with over 25 years in the energy
15 industry. I have managed several different energy business segments
16 including areas responsible for engineering, operations, marketing,
17 regulatory and customer service. In recent years, I have held senior
18 management positions including Vice President Operations, Chief
19 Engineer, Vice President Technical Services, General Manager and
20 Director.

21 I have been employed by Peoples since 2001, when I was hired as
22 General Manager for the South Region. My responsibility at that time was
23 the overall management of distribution, transmission, engineering,
24 marketing and retail sales of natural gas to over 100,000 customers in nine
25 counties and 60 municipalities. Over 230 team members, located in six

1 different division offices were under my supervision. I relocated to
2 Tampa in 2005 to assume the position of Director of Operations for one
3 year, after which I became Director, Strategic Planning and Regulatory.

4 **Q. WHAT ARE YOUR CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES?**

5 A. I am responsible for Peoples' overall strategic plans and for directing rate
6 and regulatory matters under the jurisdiction of the Florida Public Service
7 Commission (the "Commission"). I have also coordinated the preparation
8 and filing of Peoples' case in this proceeding. I am a member of the
9 American Gas Association's Rates Committee and the Southern Gas
10 Association's Rates and Regulatory Affairs Committee.

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

12 A. The primary purpose of my testimony is to explain and support Peoples'
13 proposed Gas System Reliability Rider and Carbon Reduction Rider.

14 The Gas System Reliability Rider ("Rider GSR") is designed to
15 address and help manage the substantial investments the Company must
16 make each year due to government-mandated relocations of Peoples'
17 facilities. The Carbon Reduction Rider ("Rider CR") is designed to
18 address, manage, and encourage the expansion of natural gas to new
19 developments that are not located near interstate pipelines or existing
20 Company supply mains.

21 To place the purposes of these riders in proper perspective, I will
22 first explain Peoples' standard policy of routing supply and distribution
23 mains in public rights-of-way. I will also explain the challenges the
24 Company faces when deciding whether to extend its facilities to make
25 natural gas available to new residential and commercial developments.

1 Because the policy and the challenges encountered are interrelated, both
2 will be discussed in the context of potential system expansions.

3 I will also describe how expanding the Peoples system supports the
4 State of Florida's carbon dioxide ("CO₂") emissions reduction initiatives
5 and energy conservation efforts. Lastly, I will describe Peoples' safety
6 and reliability efforts with respect to underground main and service lines.

7 **Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY EXHIBITS TO BE INTRODUCED IN THIS**
8 **PROCEEDING?**

9 A. Yes. I am sponsoring, and prepared or caused to be prepared, Exhibits
10 ___(LMB-1) through ___(LMB-2). I will also refer to portions of the
11 new tariff sheets contained in Schedule E-9 of the MFRs (Composite
12 Exhibit __ (PGS-1)) when discussing Rider GSR and Rider CR.

13 **Q. HOW DOES PEOPLES DECIDE WHETHER IT WILL EXTEND**
14 **ITS FACILITIES TO SERVE CUSTOMERS IN AN AREA NOT**
15 **PREVIOUSLY HAVING NATURAL GAS SERVICE?**

16 A. Unless the area – generally a new development that will eventually consist
17 of new homes and accompanying commercial development – is located
18 adjacent to, or relatively near, an interstate pipeline or a Peoples supply
19 main with adequate existing capacity to serve the development, the
20 decision can be difficult. While interstate pipelines traverse Florida, the
21 proximity of potential new customers to the pipelines, or to existing
22 Peoples supply mains, can range from less than a mile to tens of miles.
23 This proximity directly impacts Peoples' multi-step decision of whether or
24 not to serve a new development.

25 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT PROCESS.**

1 A. When a new development is identified, steps are taken to ensure that
2 natural gas can be delivered either from a transmission pipeline, or an
3 existing Peoples supply main, to the potential new customers in a safe,
4 reliable and economical manner. At a high level, the steps are to
5 determine the development's gas load potential, design the distribution
6 main, and design the supply main. The distribution main is the main that
7 will traverse the development, and off of which service lines will be run to
8 serve individual customers. The supply main, if any, is the main that will
9 be installed between a Peoples connection with an interstate pipeline, or
10 existing Peoples supply main, and the distribution main.

11 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FIRST STEP.**

12 A. In the first, or gas load determination step, Peoples obtains information
13 with respect to potential natural gas load and customer locations in the
14 proposed development. The Company meets with the potential developers
15 and thoroughly reviews their master plans. Land use zone maps are
16 reviewed to estimate the commercial and residential development mix that
17 may occur in the proposed development.

18 Timing for build-out of the development, is a critical part of the gas
19 load determination phase because residential and commercial
20 developments typically build out over several years. Smaller
21 developments (less than 300 homes) generally fully build out in as little as
22 three to five years, while larger developments of over 1,000 homes can
23 fully build out in eight to 12 years. Overall economic conditions often
24 affect these time frames. Completion of this phase results in a load
25 forecast showing gas load locations and a preliminary build-out timeline

1 for the potential project.

2 **Q. WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS?**

3 A. In the second step, the distribution main and service lines that will serve
4 customers in the development are designed. Designing a distribution main
5 requires each customer's estimated hourly demand for gas to be identified
6 in the various locations within the proposed development. Company
7 engineers use the estimated customer hourly demand to properly size the
8 distribution main and service lines so Peoples can deliver natural gas at
9 any time, on any day, during any year. The diameters of typical
10 distribution mains range from two inches to four inches, and of service
11 lines from three-quarters of an inch to two inches. Completion of this
12 phase results in the design criteria for a natural gas distribution system,
13 together with construction cost estimates.

14 The third step is the design of the natural gas supply main and
15 associated appurtenances that will connect the development distribution
16 system to the interstate transmission pipeline system or an existing
17 Peoples supply main. Supply main design requirements include the length
18 of the main, hourly customer demand and available gas supply pressure.
19 To properly design the city gate station, regulator station, and supply
20 main, Company engineers use available delivery pressure data from the
21 interstate pipeline. Typical interstate pipeline operating pressures range
22 from 750 to 1,480 pounds per square inch gauge ("psig"), so pressure-
23 reducing equipment or regulator stations must be designed and installed to
24 meet gas delivery requirements.

25 As I mentioned earlier, the proximity of a potential residential

1 and/or commercial development to an interstate pipeline system can range
2 from less than a mile to tens of miles. Company engineers use the actual
3 distance to design the proper size and operating pressure of the supply
4 main. Typical supply main diameters are greater than four inches or
5 certified to operate at pressures above 60 psig. Completion of this phase
6 results in the designs for a city gate station, regulator station(s) and supply
7 main, along with estimated construction costs.

8 **Q. HOW ARE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION MAINS ROUTED?**

9 A. Peoples installs many miles of natural gas main annually and strives to do
10 so in the most economical manner practicable, meaning we make every
11 effort to select supply and distribution main routes that minimize
12 installation cost. This typically means selecting the shortest possible route
13 from supply source to the end-use customer. Peoples' standard practice is
14 to install supply and distribution main within and at the edge of public
15 rights-of-way at a depth of about 36 inches.

16 **Q. WHY IS INSTALLATION IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY**
17 **PEOPLES' STANDARD PRACTICE?**

18 A. Selecting a route for a natural gas main installation provides at least a
19 theoretical choice between installing in private right-of-way or in public
20 right-of-way. Installing in public right-of-way is substantially less
21 expensive since the private right-of-way may require costly land
22 acquisition or easements from one or more private entities. Installation of
23 main in private right-of-way may also be almost impossible in instances
24 where the main would occupy the land of several different land owners,
25 which in most instances means it is not practical, and would be more

1 costly, to install supply or distribution mains within cities and residential
2 developments.

3 **Q. DOES PEOPLES HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS TO USE PUBLIC**
4 **RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NATURAL GAS**
5 **INFRASTRUCTURE?**

6 A. Yes. Peoples installs natural gas facilities in several different government-
7 owned public rights-of-way including those owned or controlled by the
8 Florida Department of Transportation, counties, municipalities and water
9 management districts. Provisions for public utilities' use of these rights-
10 of-way are made by statute, regulation, ordinance or franchise agreement.
11 There may be costs, such as permit fees, associated with the Company's
12 use of these rights-of-way, but they are generally far less than the costs
13 associated with the Company's acquiring property or easements needed to
14 install under privately owned lands. Even greater economies can be
15 obtained if an installation in public right-of-way can be accomplished at
16 the same time other utility facilities, such as water and wastewater
17 facilities, are installed.

18 **Q. DOES INSTALLING FACILITIES IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY**
19 **SUBJECT PEOPLES TO ANY REQUIREMENTS OF THE PUBLIC**
20 **ENTITY CONTROLLING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY?**

21 A. Yes. Peoples must generally abide by various rules, regulations and other
22 requirements. These may include, but are not limited to, requirements that
23 natural gas mains or service lines be installed at depths which will not
24 conflict with other structures, requirements that the natural gas facilities be
25 relocated in the future when mandated by the governmental entity

1 controlling the right-of-way, not installing natural gas facilities under
2 pavement, and providing proper traffic control during construction and
3 maintenance of the natural gas facilities.

4 **Q. CAN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES ORDER PEOPLES TO MOVE**
5 **ITS FACILITIES INSTALLED IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF WAY?**

6 A. Yes. When Peoples installs mains or service lines in, under or along
7 public rights-of-way such as streets, roads and highways, the Company is
8 generally required – by statute, rule or local franchise or ordinance – to
9 relocate the facilities when the governmental body controlling the right-of-
10 way orders the Company to do so. The entity may be re-routing or
11 widening a road, installing or relocating water or wastewater lines, or re-
12 configuring an intersection. In most instances, Peoples must replace or
13 relocate its facilities at its own expense, without reimbursement, just to
14 continue to meet its service obligations.

15 **Q. DOES PEOPLES ATTEMPT TO MINIMIZE OR LIMIT**
16 **GOVERNMENT-MANDATED RELOCATIONS?**

17 A. Yes, the Company makes those efforts during the design phase of a
18 project, as well as after the facilities have been placed in service.

19 The design phase is Peoples' first opportunity to minimize the
20 possibility of a relocation mandate. Natural gas facilities are typically
21 installed at the edge of rights-of-way, away from facilities of other
22 utilities. In addition, the main in a development is generally installed
23 behind the curb at a depth to avoid any conflict with road work or
24 underground improvements.

25 Once Peoples' facilities have been installed and are in service, the

1 Company provides the government entity maps showing the location of
2 natural gas facilities. To the extent possible, Peoples enlists the assistance
3 of the governmental entity design engineer in making accommodations for
4 the natural gas facilities to minimize any requirement that the Company
5 relocate them.

6 **Q. IF ALL OPTIONS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED, WHAT IS THE**
7 **COMPANY'S PROCESS FOR PHYSICALLY RELOCATING ITS**
8 **NATURAL GAS FACILITIES?**

9 A. At this point, the Company has no choice but to prepare for the facilities
10 relocation, including designing and engineering how natural gas service
11 will be maintained to affected customers while new facilities are installed.
12 The steps required to relocate facilities are similar to those I previously
13 described when the Company plans for a new installation; that is,
14 determining existing customers' loads, designing and routing supply
15 and/or distribution mains, and coordinating actual construction with the
16 requirements of the government entity that has mandated the relocation.

17 **Q. WHY DOES THE COMPANY HAVE NO CHOICE IN WHETHER**
18 **OR NOT IT RELOCATES ITS FACILITIES?**

19 A. As I stated earlier, Peoples' rights to install supply and distribution main
20 in public rights-of-way are in most cases subject to the requirement that
21 the Company relocate its facilities if conflicts develop with work
22 performed by or on behalf of a governmental entity within the right-of-
23 way. As a practical matter, receipt of a relocation order also puts the
24 Company on notice that at some point in the near future, actual road
25 construction work will begin, increasing the possibility of damage to the

1 Company's underground facilities if they are not relocated outside the
2 construction zone.

3 Construction contracts between government entities and road work
4 contractors also typically include completion deadlines. If Peoples' failure
5 to timely relocate its facilities causes a contractor's failure to meet the
6 completion deadline, the contractor and/or the governmental entity could
7 impose fees on the Company for downtime reimbursement. Finally, as a
8 practical matter, project delays caused by the Company also create ill will
9 between Peoples and government entities.

10 **Q. WHAT IS PEOPLES' ANNUAL CAPITAL COST FOR THESE**
11 **GOVERNMENT-MANDATED RELOCATIONS?**

12 A. The capital costs the Company has incurred for such relocations for each
13 of the last five years are:

14	<u>Year</u>	<u>Cost in Millions</u>
15	2003	\$3.8
16	2004	\$4.3
17	2005	\$5.2
18	2006	\$2.9
19	2007	\$5.2

20 For 2008 and the projected test year, the capital budget for these
21 expenditures is \$6.3 million and \$3.8 million, respectively.

22 Of the capital expenditures for this five-year period, Peoples has
23 been able to recover its depreciation expense and earn a return only on
24 those for 2003 – which was the projected test year in Peoples' last rate
25 case. For the four years from 2004 through 2007, there were total capital

1 expenditures of \$17.6 million for government-mandated relocations for
2 which Peoples received no revenues through which to recover the
3 associated depreciation and ad valorem tax expenses or a return on its
4 investment in the replacement facilities.

5 **Q. DOES PEOPLES INCUR OTHER GOVERNMENT-MANDATED**
6 **EXPENDITURES?**

7 A. Yes. As Paul Higgins has testified, Peoples has included over \$750,000 in
8 operations and maintenance (“O&M”) expense for the projected test year
9 as a result of the federal Pipeline Safety Act of 2002 (the “2002 Act”), the
10 Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006
11 passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush (Public Law
12 109-468, the “PIPES Act”) in December 2007, and the U.S. Department of
13 Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
14 Administration’s (“PHMSA’s”) current and proposed regulations
15 implementing those acts. The 2002 Act required the implementation of
16 integrity management activities with respect to “transmission” pipelines,
17 and the PIPES Act required similar measures with respect to “distribution”
18 pipelines. The effect on Peoples of the 2002 Act and PHMSA’s
19 implementing regulations was limited because of the relatively small
20 proportion of pipelines within Peoples’ system that are classified as
21 transmission pipelines. However, as Mr. Higgins has testified, the impact
22 of the PIPES Act and PHMSA’s implementing regulations will much
23 more directly affect Peoples and other natural gas local distribution
24 companies (“LDCs”).

25 **Q. IS PEOPLES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE ACTS AND**

1 **THE IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS?**

2 A. Yes. The Company has no control over incurring the associated O&M
3 expenses which will be required to comply with the acts. As shown by
4 Mr. Higgins' Exhibit ___(JPH-4), the Company will incur government-
5 mandated O&M expenses through 2013. As he also testified, the full
6 impact of the costs of complying with the acts and the implementing
7 regulations is not known, and not every item of the compliance costs will
8 be incurred in every year.

9 In essence, these government-mandated compliance costs are no
10 different than the government-mandated relocation costs Peoples incurs as
11 a result of installing its facilities in public rights-of-way – the Company
12 simply has no control over the incurrence of the costs.

13 **Q. RETURNING TO YOUR DISCUSSION OF THE STEPS**
14 **INVOLVED IN EXPANSION OF FACILITIES, ONCE THE STEPS**
15 **YOU DESCRIBED HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, HOW DOES**
16 **PEOPLES DECIDE WHETHER TO EXPAND ITS**
17 **INFRASTRUCTURE TO DELIVER GAS TO A PROPOSED NEW**
18 **DEVELOPMENT?**

19 A. Whether or not the Company will actually construct the facilities needed
20 to deliver natural gas to a new development is largely a financial decision,
21 one driven by a number of factors. The primary factor is the cost of
22 installing the supply main. The supply main produces no revenues, but
23 without it, potential revenue-producing customers in the development
24 cannot become customers. The often lengthy lag between the time the
25 Company must make the capital expenditures to install the necessary

1 facilities, and the time the development will be fully built-out also affects
2 the decision.

3 **Q. ASSUME PEOPLES HAS DESIGNED AND ROUTED THE**
4 **FACILITIES NEEDED TO SERVE A NEW DEVELOPMENT AND**
5 **DECIDED TO MAKE THE REQUIRED CAPITAL**
6 **EXPENDITURES. WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?**

7 A. An overall timeline for the project is created with different tasks, such as
8 gate station and regulator station construction (if there is to be a new
9 connection to an interstate pipeline), and supply and development main
10 construction to meet the developer's and other potential customers' needs.
11 Peoples' internal guidelines are to install these facilities no sooner than
12 absolutely required by the end-use customers to best manage capital.

13 When the first customer in a new development is ready for natural
14 gas service, the Company will have already placed in service natural gas
15 facilities that could include a gate station, regulator station(s), supply main
16 and some or all of the required development main. Facilities that provide
17 natural gas service must be in place before a single customer can begin to
18 receive service, even though full build-out of the development, and the
19 associated revenues, may not occur for several years. This is the major
20 challenge in bringing the environmental and other benefits of the direct
21 use of natural gas to more Florida residents.

22 **Q. PLEASE EXPAND ON THOSE ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER**
23 **BENEFITS.**

24 A. Natural gas is an extremely important source of energy for Florida
25 consumers. It provides economical benefits, is environmentally friendly

1 and domestically produced, with 99% of the natural gas consumed in the
2 United States originating in North America. Natural gas service is also
3 very reliable. During the major storms Florida experienced during the
4 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons, less than one percent of Peoples'
5 customers were without gas service. Natural gas appliances also have
6 lower annual operating costs than appliances that use other fuels.

7 In addition to being a domestically abundant and secure source of
8 energy, the direct use of natural gas offers a number of environmental
9 benefits over other sources of energy, particularly other fossil fuels.
10 Composed primarily of methane, it is the cleanest of all fossil fuels with
11 the main products of its combustion being CO₂ and water vapor, the same
12 compounds we exhale when we breathe.

13 Direct use of natural gas is also about 90% efficient compared to
14 electricity at about 30% when the full fuel cycle is considered. This
15 efficiency equates to fewer electric power plants required to serve the
16 same number of customers. In fact, had Peoples' 305,000 residential
17 customers used all electric appliances, the State of Florida would have
18 needed an equivalent 250 megawatt power plant that would produced in
19 excess of 650,000 tons net of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

20 Reducing net carbon emissions attributable to residential customer
21 energy usage is also a major benefit to Florida. An overall net reduction
22 of about 4,000 pounds of CO₂ and an annual operating savings of \$75 per
23 year can be achieved by a residential natural gas customer with a natural
24 gas dryer, range, water heater and furnace, when compared to a like
25 residential customer with all electric appliances installed. My Exhibit

1 ___(LMB-1) shows these annual operating savings along with the reduced
2 CO₂ emissions of a typical natural gas home versus a typical all-electric
3 home.

4 **Q. DESPITE THESE BENEFITS, DOES PEOPLES FACE ANY**
5 **DIFFICULTIES IN MAKING NATURAL GAS SERVICE**
6 **AVAILABLE TO MORE CUSTOMERS?**

7 A. Yes. Currently, there is only one natural gas customer for every 10
8 electric customers in Florida. That is, despite the benefits described,
9 natural gas end-use represents only about a 10% saturation of the state's
10 energy customers.

11 One reason for this low saturation I have already mentioned is the
12 lack of proximity of potential natural gas customers to natural gas
13 pipelines, or to existing supply mains of LDCs such as Peoples. The
14 Company's engineering requirements to install natural gas supply main to
15 connect potential end-use customers to transmission pipelines are
16 challenging both financially and operationally. Operationally, the supply
17 main must be in service when the first customer needs natural gas, even
18 though full build-out of the residential and commercial development may
19 take 10 or more years. The simple fact is that supply main investment
20 must be made so that natural gas is available for the first customer
21 although the majority of the development's customers may not produce
22 revenue for several years thereafter. If Peoples is unable to timely recover
23 the costs associated with its investment in the supply main, the planning,
24 engineering and financing of the natural gas infrastructure may occur so
25 late in the process that the developer may move on with the project and

1 build less environmentally friendly homes.

2 Another reason the Company faces difficulties in making natural
3 gas available to more customers is that, unlike northern states where
4 winter temperatures are cold enough to make natural gas heat practically a
5 requirement for homeowners, many Florida builders and developers don't
6 believe natural gas is required, even though potential home purchasers
7 want natural gas.

8 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RIDERS FOR WHICH PEOPLES IS**
9 **SEEKING APPROVAL THAT WILL ADDRESS THE**
10 **CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING A SAFE, RELIABLE AND**
11 **ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY FUEL.**

12 **A.** As mentioned earlier, there are two -- the Gas System Reliability Rider
13 ("Rider GSR"), and the Carbon Reduction Rider ("Rider CR").

14 Rider GSR would allow the Company to recover, in a timely
15 manner, certain costs incurred as a result of government-mandated
16 relocations of Company facilities or safety requirements.

17 Rider CR would act as an incentive to Peoples in making natural
18 gas available to customers in areas where it is not currently available by
19 permitting the Company to recover, on a more timely basis, the costs
20 associated with installing a supply main that is needed to provide such
21 service.

22 The two riders are similar in terms of the manner in which eligible
23 costs would be recovered, and would be similar to the means by which
24 energy conservation and environmental costs Florida utilities recover. I
25 will discuss the eligible costs to be recovered under each rider separately,

1 because the costs are different in terms of their qualifying criteria. The
2 actual recovery mechanism for each rider, however, is virtually identical
3 to the other.

4 **Q. WHY IS PEOPLES SEEKING APPROVAL OF THE GAS SYSTEM**
5 **RELIABILITY RIDER?**

6 A. Peoples invests millions of dollars annually for the installation and
7 replacement of natural gas supply and distribution mains, service lines and
8 other facilities used to provide safe and reliable natural gas service to over
9 334,000 customers in Florida. As discussed in Bruce Narzissenfeld's
10 testimony and as I have previously testified, the Company expects to make
11 capital expenditures of approximately \$60 million in the 2009 projected
12 test year, approximately \$3.8 million of which is designated for
13 government-mandated relocations of Company facilities. However, there
14 can be a significant lag in recovery of the revenue requirements associated
15 with these capital expenditures from the time the investments are made
16 until they are included in the Company's rate base in a base rate
17 proceeding. When these relocations are ordered by the governmental
18 entity, the expenses of the Company's complying with the order are in
19 most cases not reimbursed by the governmental entity. In addition,
20 Peoples anticipates being faced with additional O&M expenses not
21 covered in the projected test year in this case for pipeline safety mandates
22 pursuant to the PIPES Act.

23 Rider GSR would help address this lag and would provide Peoples
24 more timely recovery of the costs associated with, and recovery of the
25 weighted average cost of capital on its capital investment. Through timely

1 recovery, the Commission's approval of Rider GSR will also result in the
2 Company's having more capital dollars available for expansion projects
3 that would bring the benefits of natural gas to more Florida residents.

4 **Q. IS PEOPLES SEEKING PROJECT "PRE-APPROVAL" BEFORE**
5 **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ASSOCIATED WITH RELOCATION**
6 **PROJECTS ARE MADE?**

7 A. No. The Company must continue to relocate facilities as mandated by
8 governmental agencies although the recovery mechanism involves
9 projections of the investments. Resulting costs with a true-up to actual
10 expenses are proposed to be recovered only on plant investments that have
11 been placed in service and that are used and useful for Peoples' existing
12 customer base.

13 **Q. WHAT COSTS WOULD BE RECOVERED UNDER RIDER GSR?**

14 A. The Rider GSR would recover the revenue requirements (i.e., the
15 Company's weighted average cost of capital, depreciation expense and ad
16 valorem taxes, grossed up for federal and state income taxes) associated
17 with eligible infrastructure system replacements. It would also recover
18 incremental O&M expenses incurred to comply with the federal
19 transmission and distribution pipeline integrity requirements I have
20 described. By "incremental," I mean expenses of this type in excess of the
21 levels included for ratemaking purposes in this proceeding or a subsequent
22 base rate proceeding.

23 As set forth in Rider GSR, "Eligible Replacements" would consist
24 of:

25 1. Mains, service lines, regulator stations and other pipeline

1 components installed to comply with state or federal safety requirements
2 as replacements for existing facilities;

3 2. Main and service line projects extending the useful life or
4 enhancing the integrity of the pipeline components, undertaken to comply
5 with state or federal safety requirements; and

6 3. Facility relocations due to construction or improvement of
7 a highway, road, street, public way or other public work by or on behalf of
8 a government or other entity having the power of eminent domain, to the
9 extent costs of the project are not reimbursed to Peoples.

10 No infrastructure system replacement described above would be
11 eligible if its cost was included in the Company's most recent base rate
12 proceeding, or if it increased the Company's revenues by being directly
13 connected to new customers. Since all items of the type described are
14 included through the end of the 2009 projected test year in this
15 proceeding, no item described above would constitute an Eligible
16 Replacement unless installed on or after January 1, 2010.

17 **Q. WHY IS IT APPROPRIATE TO REQUEST O&M EXPENSE FOR**
18 **PIPELINE INTEGRITY COSTS IF, ACCORDING TO MR.**
19 **HIGGINS' TESTIMONY, PEOPLES HAS ALREADY INCLUDED**
20 **\$750,000 FOR THESE COSTS IN THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

21 A. It is appropriate because Peoples cannot predict associated future expenses
22 and has no ability to prevent the expenses from being incurred. Incurrence
23 of these expenses is mandated by the federal government.

24 **Q. IF RIDER GSR IS APPROVED AND, IN 2010, PEOPLES**
25 **INCURRED THESE TYPES OF EXPENSES AT A LEVEL LESS**

1 **THAN THE APPROXIMATELY \$750,000 INCLUDED IN THE**
2 **PROJECTED TEST YEAR, WOULD THE REDUCTION BE**
3 **CAPTURED IN CALCULATING THE REVENUE**
4 **REQUIREMENTS TO BE RECOVERED THROUGH THE RIDER?**

5 A. Yes. Any reduction in O&M expense for transmission and distribution
6 pipeline integrity below what is allowed in the projected test year in this
7 case would reduce the revenue requirement to be recovered through the
8 rider. All of the qualifying criteria, as well as how charges would be
9 developed, are set forth in proposed Rider GSR, which is found on Sheets
10 Nos. 7.807 through 7.807-2 of the new tariff sheets contained in MFR
11 Schedule E-9.

12 **Q. WHY IS THE COMPANY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE**
13 **CARBON REDUCTION RIDER?**

14 A. As I have previously testified, despite the environmental benefits of the
15 direct use of natural gas, the Company faces financial obstacles in
16 extending its facilities – particularly necessary, but non-revenue
17 producing, supply mains – to many areas of Florida that are not in close
18 proximity to an interstate natural gas pipeline to which the Company could
19 connect, or to existing Company supply mains.

20 Approval of Rider CR is consistent with, and responsive to,
21 Governor Crist's efforts as outlined in Executive Order No. 07-127, titled
22 "Establishing Immediate Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
23 within Florida." In addition, Rider CR aligns well with several sections of
24 the omnibus energy legislation contained in House Bill 7135 that was
25 passed during the 2008 Session of the Florida Legislature including

1 Section 187.201 that in part encourages the development of low-carbon-
2 emitting electric power plants and Section 377.601 that establishes policy
3 to develop and promote the effective use of energy in the state, discourage
4 all forms of energy waste, and recognize and address the potential of
5 global climate change wherever possible. In essence, a home with natural
6 gas appliances versus all electric appliances produces net lower carbon
7 emissions within the state of Florida.

8 **Q. HAS PEOPLES IDENTIFIED AREAS OF THE STATE WHERE**
9 **DEVELOPMENTS ARE PLANNED THAT ARE NOT**
10 **CURRENTLY IN A POSITION TO BE SERVED WITH NATURAL**
11 **GAS?**

12 A. Yes. Peoples has identified over 25 such areas representing approximately
13 100,000 new residential customers and the commercial customers such as
14 restaurants and other gas-consuming businesses that generally follow large
15 residential developments.

16 **Q. HOW WERE THESE AREAS IDENTIFIED BY PEOPLES?**

17 A. Areas for potential gas service are identified by sales personnel that track
18 general development growth trends in addition to using data from the
19 census bureau and other studies.

20 **Q. WHAT COSTS WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR RECOVERY**
21 **THROUGH THE CARBON REDUCTION RIDER?**

22 A. Rider CR would recover the revenue requirements (i.e., the Company's
23 weighted average cost of capital, depreciation expense and ad valorem
24 taxes, grossed up for federal and state income taxes) associated with
25 supply mains installed to reach a new development. As indicated earlier,

1 these supply mains produce no revenue for the Company, but the revenues
2 from a potential new development cannot be obtained without their
3 installation.

4 **Q. WOULD THE COSTS OF EVERY COMPANY EXPANSION**
5 **QUALIFY FOR RECOVERY THROUGH THE RIDER?**

6 A. No. The expenses to be recovered by Rider CR would be limited to
7 Eligible Installations that are defined as extensions of main greater than
8 four inches in diameter, or that are certified to operate at a pressure of 60
9 psig or greater that serve Company distribution systems serving primarily
10 residential customers. All of the qualifying criteria, as well as how
11 charges would be developed, are set forth in proposed Rider CR, found on
12 Sheets Nos. 7.809 through 7.809-2 of the new tariff sheets contained in
13 MFR Schedule E-9.

14 **Q. ON WHAT ANNUAL AMOUNT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN**
15 **“ELIGIBLE INSTALLATIONS” DO YOU ANTICIPATE PEOPLES**
16 **WILL SEEK TO RECOVER REVENUE REQUIREMENTS IF**
17 **RIDER CR IS APPROVED?**

18 A. The amount would obviously vary from year to year, depending on
19 economic conditions in the housing market. Even during “good”
20 economic periods in the housing market, and despite the potential
21 developments the Company has identified, not every development will
22 become a reality, and not all that become a reality will elect to make
23 natural gas available.

24 However, assume Rider CR was in place and Peoples had not
25 initiated this base rate proceeding. Mr. Narzissenfeld has testified that

1 Peoples will make total capital expenditures of \$62 million in 2008, and
2 \$60 million in the 2009 projected test year. Of these total capital
3 expenditures, \$5.8 million during 2008 and \$3.6 million during the
4 projected test year would have been Eligible Installations on which
5 Peoples could have petitioned the Commission to recover the revenue
6 requirements associated with such plant investments had Rider CR been in
7 place and this rate case not been initiated.

8 **Q. HOW WOULD THE CHARGES UNDER RIDERS GSR AND CR**
9 **BE ESTABLISHED?**

10 A. Each rider contemplates the Company's filing of a petition for approval of
11 the projected revenue requirement to be recovered. In the case of the
12 Rider GSR petition, the projected revenue requirement would be
13 associated with the projected Eligible Replacements and government-
14 mandated safety measures. In the Rider CR petition, the projected
15 revenue requirement would be associated with projected Eligible
16 Installations of mains greater than four inches in diameter, or certified to
17 operate at 60 psig or greater, that serve Company distribution systems
18 serving primarily residential customers. The revenue requirement under
19 each rider would be calculated and trued up much as expenses are
20 projected and trued up under the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery
21 clauses used by both electric and natural gas utilities. As is the case with
22 proceedings under those clauses, the Commission would have the
23 opportunity to thoroughly review and audit the Company's filings and
24 make any necessary adjustments.

25 **Q. WHEN WOULD THE PETITIONS BE FILED?**

1 A. If the Commission approves Riders GSR and CR, Peoples' first petitions
2 would be filed in late 2009, and would be based on eligible investments
3 projected to be placed in service, and incremental expenses to be incurred
4 by the Company, during 2010. The charges resulting from each filing
5 would be included on customers' bills commencing in January 2010.
6 Peoples would again file petitions in 2011 which would recalculate the
7 charges to recover the revenue requirements under each rider based on
8 eligible costs for both 2010 and 2011, as adjusted by projected true-ups of
9 the initially projected 2010 revenue requirements and the amount
10 recovered through the surcharges imposed. Charges approved by the
11 Commission as a result of a petition would continue in effect until new
12 Commission-approved charges were authorized.

13 **Q. HOW WOULD THE REVENUE REQUIREMENTS TO BE**
14 **RECOVERED THROUGH CHARGES IMPOSED PURSUANT TO**
15 **THE RIDERS BE ALLOCATED AMONG AND BILLED TO THE**
16 **COMPANY'S CUSTOMERS?**

17 A. The CRR Revenue Requirements would be allocated to customer classes
18 based on the same allocation methodology pursuant to the Energy
19 Conservation Cost Recovery Rule 25-17.015, Florida Administrative
20 Code. The GSRR Revenue Requirements would be allocated to customer
21 classes using the same methodology used in the cost of service study in
22 the Company's most recent base rate proceeding, and would be recovered
23 through a per therm surcharge.

24 **Q. HOW LONG WOULD PEOPLES COLLECT CHARGES IMPOSED**
25 **PURSUANT TO RIDERS GSR AND CR FROM ITS CUSTOMERS?**

1 A. Collection of the GSRR Surcharges from customers would continue until
2 such time as Peoples began billing new base rates resulting from a full
3 base rate proceeding. Collection of the CRR Surcharges from customers
4 for each Eligible Installation would continue for five years or until such
5 time as Peoples began billing new base rates resulting from a full base rate
6 proceeding, whichever occurs first.

7 **Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE REVENUE**
8 **REQUIREMENT TO BE RECOVERED THROUGH RIDER GSR**
9 **WOULD BE CALCULATED AND ALLOCATED AMONG THE**
10 **CUSTOMER CLASSES?**

11 A. A summary of that calculation is found in my Exhibit ___(LMB-2). As
12 shown by the exhibit, using the Company's 5-year average \$4.3 million
13 investment in Rider GSR Eligible Replacements would result in a
14 surcharge of \$0.00213 per therm to a typical residential customer in the
15 first year of implementation. This would be approximately \$0.04 per
16 month for the average residential customer using 222 therms per year. A
17 \$1 million investment in Rider CR Eligible Installations would result in a
18 surcharge of \$0.00069 per therm to a typical residential customer.

19 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

20 A. Yes, it does.

21

22

23

24

25

Residential Appliance Energy Comparison

Appliance	Natural Gas					Electricity					Natural Gas Savings		
	Energy Consumption (MMBtu/yr)	Avg Cost Rate (\$/MCF, 2006)	Annual Operating Cost	Annual CO2 Emissions (lbs)	Source Energy (MMBtu)	Energy Consumption (kWh/yr)	Avg Cost Rate (\$/kWh, 2006)	Annual Operating Cost	Annual CO2 Emissions (lbs)	Source Energy (MMBtu)	Annual Operating Cost	Annual CO2 Emissions (lbs)	Source Energy (MMBtu)
Furnace	5.25	21.54	\$ 109.79	614	5.46	476	11.33	53.95	642	4.44	(55.84)	28	(1.02)
Water Heater	14.15	21.54	\$ 295.96	1,656	14.72	3,493	11.33	395.74	4,708	32.58	99.78	3,053	17.87
Dryer	3.72	21.54	\$ 77.82	435	3.87	967	11.33	109.61	1,304	9.02	31.79	869	5.15
Cooktop	0.60	21.54	\$ 12.55	70	0.62	95	11.33	10.77	128	0.89	(1.78)	58	0.26
TOTAL	23.72		\$ 496.12	2,776	24.67	5,032		\$ 570.07	6,783	46.94	73.95 13%	4,007 59%	22.26 47%

Sources: Energy Consumption, Annual CO2 Emissions, and Source Energy are from the Appliance Calculator Residential Consumer Version developed by ICF International and the Energy Solutions Center.

Average Cost Rates for both natural gas and electricity are 2006 annual average rates for residential customers in Florida as reported by the Energy Information Administration.

Peoples Gas System
Gas System Reliability Rider
Calculation of the Projected Amount for the Period
January 20xx to December 20xx

Return on Capital Investments, Depreciation and Taxes
Eligible Replacements

Line Description	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	End of Period Total
1. Investments													
a. Eligible Replacements - Mains	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 358,333	\$ 4,300,000
a. Eligible Replacements - Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
a. Eligible Replacements - Regulator Stations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d. Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Gross Plant-In-Service/Depreciation Base	\$ 358,333	\$ 716,667	\$ 1,075,000	\$ 1,433,333	\$ 1,791,667	\$ 2,150,000	\$ 2,508,333	\$ 2,866,667	\$ 3,225,000	\$ 3,583,333	\$ 3,941,667	\$ 4,300,000	
3. Less: Accumulated Depreciation	0	(866)	(2,598)	(5,196)	(8,660)	(12,990)	(18,186)	(24,248)	(31,176)	(38,970)	(47,830)	(57,156)	
4. Net Book Value (Lines 2 + 3)	\$ 358,333	\$ 715,801	\$ 1,072,402	\$ 1,428,137	\$ 1,783,007	\$ 2,137,010	\$ 2,490,147	\$ 2,842,419	\$ 3,193,824	\$ 3,544,363	\$ 3,894,037	\$ 4,242,844	
5. Average Net Investment	\$ 179,167	\$ 537,067	\$ 894,101	\$ 1,250,270	\$ 1,605,572	\$ 1,960,008	\$ 2,313,579	\$ 2,666,283	\$ 3,018,121	\$ 3,369,094	\$ 3,719,200	\$ 4,068,440	
6. Return on Average Net Investment													
a. Net Operating Income after tax (A)	\$ 2,179	\$ 6,532	\$ 10,875	\$ 15,207	\$ 19,528	\$ 23,839	\$ 28,139	\$ 32,429	\$ 36,708	\$ 40,977	\$ 45,235	\$ 49,483	\$ 311,131
7. Investment Expenses													
a. Depreciation (B)	0	866	1,732	2,598	3,464	4,330	5,196	6,062	6,928	7,794	8,660	9,526	57,156
b. Amortization	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d. Property Taxes (C)	202	604	1,006	1,407	1,806	2,205	2,603	3,000	3,395	3,790	4,184	4,577	28,779
e. Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Revenue Requirements (Lines 6 + 7)	\$ 2,381	\$ 8,002	\$ 13,613	\$ 19,212	\$ 24,798	\$ 30,374	\$ 35,938	\$ 41,491	\$ 47,031	\$ 52,561	\$ 58,079	\$ 63,586	\$ 397,066

Notes:

(A) Line 5 x 8.88% x (1/12) x 1.6436. Based on ROE of 11.50%, Income tax rate of 38.575%, expansion factor of 1.6436

(B) Applicable depreciation rate is 2.4%

(C) Ad Valorem Tax Rate is 1.35%

GAS SYSTEM RELIABILITY RIDER
SUMMARY OF GSRR SURCHARGE CALCULATION
MONTHS: January 20xx Through December 20xx

<u>RATE SCHEDULE</u>	<u>MAINS NET PLANT*</u>	<u>SERVICES NET PLANT*</u>	<u>TOTAL NET PLANT*</u>	<u>% OF TOTAL PLANT</u>	<u>GSRR REVENUES</u>	<u>THERMS*</u>	<u>GSRR SURCHARGE PER THERM</u>
RS & RS-SG	\$60,563,268	\$79,163,368	\$139,726,636	33.30%	\$132,229	61,965,936	\$0.00213
SGS & CS-SG	5,544,083	6,388,409	11,932,492	2.84%	11,292	8,296,450	\$0.00136
GS-1	46,564,900	12,184,342	58,749,242	14.00%	55,597	65,430,833	\$0.00085
GS-2	82,344,758	8,975,978	91,320,736	21.76%	86,421	124,454,784	\$0.00069
GS-3	46,741,082	2,496,659	49,237,741	11.74%	46,596	74,743,912	\$0.00062
GS-4	25,769,463	447,292	26,216,755	6.25%	24,810	43,269,635	\$0.00057
GS-5	21,688,785	427,101	22,115,885	5.27%	20,929	64,790,915	\$0.00032
SIS	9,842,341	150,223	9,992,564	2.38%	9,456	48,728,719	\$0.00019
IS	8,401,950	45,585	8,447,535	2.01%	7,994	134,464,513	\$0.00006
ISLV	155,959	4,531	160,490	0.04%	152	152,002,324	\$0.00000
WHS	796,403	35,448	831,850	0.20%	787	1,582,430	\$0.00050
NGVS	247,219	48,338	295,557	0.07%	280	428,668	\$0.00065
CSLS	540,877	10,816	551,693	0.13%	522	901,552	\$0.00058
TOTAL	\$309,201,089	\$110,378,089	\$419,579,178	100.00%	\$397,066	781,060,672	

* Source: Data in these columns are for the projected test year, taken from Schedule H-2

Peoples Gas System
Carbon Reduction Rider
Calculation of the Projected Amount for the Period
January 20xx to December 20xx

Return on Capital Investments, Depreciation and Taxes
Eligible Installations

Line Description	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	End of Period Total
1. Investments													
a. Eligible Investments - Mains	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 83,333	\$ 1,000,000
a. Eligible Investments - Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
a. Eligible Investments - Regulator Stations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d. Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Gross Plant-in-Service/Depreciation Base	\$ 83,333	\$ 166,667	\$ 250,000	\$ 333,333	\$ 416,667	\$ 500,000	\$ 583,333	\$ 666,667	\$ 750,000	\$ 833,333	\$ 916,667	\$ 1,000,000	
3. Less: Accumulated Depreciation	0	(278)	(834)	(1,667)	(2,778)	(4,167)	(5,834)	(7,778)	(10,000)	(12,500)	(15,278)	(18,334)	
4. Net Book Value (Lines 2 + 3)	\$ 83,333	\$ 166,389	\$ 249,166	\$ 331,666	\$ 413,889	\$ 495,833	\$ 577,499	\$ 658,889	\$ 740,000	\$ 820,833	\$ 901,389	\$ 981,666	
5. Average Net Investment	\$ 41,667	\$ 124,861	\$ 207,777	\$ 290,416	\$ 372,778	\$ 454,861	\$ 536,666	\$ 618,194	\$ 699,444	\$ 780,417	\$ 861,111	\$ 941,527	
6. Return on Average Net Investment													
a. Net Operating Income after tax (A)	\$ 507	\$ 1,519	\$ 2,527	\$ 3,532	\$ 4,534	\$ 5,532	\$ 6,527	\$ 7,519	\$ 8,507	\$ 9,492	\$ 10,473	\$ 11,451	\$ 72,120
7. Investment Expenses													
a. Depreciation (B)	0	278	556	833	1,111	1,389	1,667	1,944	2,222	2,500	2,778	3,056	18,334
b. Amortization	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d. Property Taxes (C)	47	140	234	327	419	512	604	695	787	878	969	1,059	6,671
e. Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Revenue Requirements (Lines 6 + 7)	\$ 554	\$ 1,937	\$ 3,317	\$ 4,692	\$ 6,064	\$ 7,433	\$ 8,798	\$ 10,158	\$ 11,516	\$ 12,870	\$ 14,220	\$ 15,566	\$ 97,125

Notes:

- (A) Line 5 x 8.88% x (1/12) x 1.6436. Based on ROE of 11.50%, Income tax rate of 38.575%, expansion factor of 1.6436
(B) Applicable depreciation rate is 4%
(C) Ad Valorem Tax Rate is 1.35%

CARBON REDUCTION RIDER
SUMMARY OF CRR SURCHARGE CALCULATION
MONTHS: January 20xx Through December 20xx

<u>RATE SCHEDULE</u>	<u>BILLS*</u>	<u>THERMS*</u>	<u>CUSTOMER CHARGE*</u>	<u>NON-GAS DIST CHARGE*</u>	<u>TOTAL CUST. & DIST CHG REVENUE*</u>	<u>CRR REVENUES</u>	<u>CRR AS % OF TOTAL REVENUES</u>	<u>CRR SURCHARGE PER THERM</u>
RS & RS-SG	3,683,881	61,965,936	\$55,364,824	\$19,903,459	\$75,268,283	\$42,551	0.05653%	\$0.00069
SGS & CS-SG	134,617	8,296,450	3,421,331	3,020,240	6,441,571	3,642	0.05653%	\$0.00044
GS-1	159,942	65,430,833	5,411,313	18,398,496	23,809,809	13,460	0.05653%	\$0.00021
GS-2	72,768	124,454,784	3,494,727	30,408,037	33,902,764	19,166	0.05653%	\$0.00015
GS-3	9,931	74,743,912	1,468,905	15,813,569	17,282,474	9,770	0.05653%	\$0.00013
GS-4	1,476	43,269,635	369,000	6,852,274.00	7,021,274	3,969	0.05653%	\$0.00009
GS-5	1,242	64,790,915	372,756	7,437,997	7,810,753	4,416	0.05653%	\$0.00007
NGVS	180	428,668	8,100	80,847	88,947	50	0.05653%	\$0.00012
CSLS	756	901,552	0	178,219	178,219	101	0.05653%	\$0.00011
TOTAL	4,064,793	444,282,685	\$69,910,956	\$101,893,138	\$171,804,094	\$97,125	0.05653%	

* Source: Data in these columns are for the projected test year, taken from Schedule H-1