

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for authority to issue and sell securities for 12 months ending December 31, 2016, by Tampa Electric Company.

DOCKET NO. 150194-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-15-0510-FOF-EI  
ISSUED: October 29, 2015

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

ART GRAHAM, Chairman  
LISA POLAK EDGAR  
RONALD A. BRISÉ  
JULIE I. BROWN  
JIMMY PATRONIS

FINAL ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORITY  
TO ISSUE AND SELL SECURITIES

BY THE COMMISSION:

Tampa Electric Company (Tampa Electric or Company) filed an application on September 3, 2015 seeking authority to issue, sell and/or exchange equity securities and issue, sell, exchange and/or assume long-term or short-term debt securities and/or to assume liabilities or obligations as guarantor, endorser, or surety during calendar year 2016. The Company also seeks authority to enter into interest rate swaps or other derivative instruments related to debt securities during calendar year 2016. Notice of Tampa Electric's application was given in the Florida Administrative Register on September 25, 2015.

According to Tampa Electric, the equity securities may take the form of preferred stock, preference stock, common stock, or options or rights with respect to the foregoing with such par values, terms and conditions, conversion and relative rights and preferences as may be permitted by Tampa Electric's Restated Articles of Incorporation, as the same may be amended to permit the issuance of any such securities.

Tampa Electric maintains that the long-term debt securities may take the form of first mortgage bonds, debentures, notes, bank borrowings, convertible securities, installment contracts and/or other obligations, underlying pollution control or sewage and solid waste disposal revenue bonds or options, rights, interest rate swaps or other derivative instruments with respect to the foregoing, with maturities ranging from one to 100 years, and may be issued in both domestic and international markets.

Tampa Electric states that the issuance and/or sale of equity securities and long-term debt requested may be through negotiated underwritten public offering, public offering at competitive bidding, direct public or private sale, sale through agents, or distribution to security holders of the Company or affiliated companies.

Tampa Electric also states that the short-term debt may take the form of commercial paper, short-term tax-exempt notes, borrowings under bank credit facilities or accounts receivable securitization credit facilities, or other bank borrowings. Short-term debt sold in the commercial paper market may bear an interest rate as determined by the market price at the date of issuance and will mature not more than one year from the date of issuance.

Tampa Electric asserts that the amount of all equity and long-term debt securities issued, sold, exchanged or assumed and liabilities and obligations assumed or guaranteed as guarantor, endorser, or surety will not exceed in the aggregate \$1.5 billion during the period covered by its application, including any amounts issued to retire existing long-term debt securities. According to Tampa Electric, the maximum amount of short-term debt, as described above, outstanding at any one time, will be \$1.0 billion.

With respect to equity and long-term debt securities and liabilities and obligations to be assumed or guaranteed as grantor, endorser or surety, the amount of \$300 million is needed to accommodate the potential issuance of additional notes based on projected short-term debt levels and debt maturities; the amount of \$200 million is needed for potential long-term emergency funding; and the amount of \$1.0 billion is needed for other purposes (swaps, refinancings, etc.). With respect to short-term debt, the amount of up to \$700 million outstanding is needed to enable the Company to fully draw existing short-term credit facilities including upsize capability; and the balance of up to \$300 million is needed to avail the Company of short-term emergency funding and other purposes.

The present estimates of the interest rates for the aforementioned debt securities, based upon current trading levels of short-term debt and 10-year notes of Tampa Electric are 0.65% and 3.35%, respectively. Actual dividend rates for the aforementioned equity securities and interest rates will be determined at the time of the issuance and/or sale of the applicable securities.

Tampa Electric maintains that any proceeds from any sale of securities will be added to Tampa Electric's general funds and used for working capital requirements and for other general business purposes, including the financing of Tampa Electric's capital investments or the acquisition of additional properties or businesses. According to Tampa Electric, the net proceeds received from the sale of securities may also be used for the repurchase or repayment of debt or equity securities of the Company.

In connection with this application, Tampa Electric confirms that the capital raised pursuant to this application will be used in connection with the activities of the Company's regulated electric and gas divisions and not the unregulated activities of the utilities or their affiliates.

Having reviewed the application, it is the finding of this Commission that the issuance and sale of the aforementioned securities will not impair the ability of Tampa Electric to perform the services of a public utility. These transactions are for such lawful purposes within Tampa

Electric's corporate powers and, as such, the application is granted subject to the conditions stated herein.

Our approval of the proposed issuance and/or sale of securities by Tampa Electric does not indicate specific approval of any rates, terms, or conditions associated with the issuance. Such matters are properly reserved for our review within the context of a rate proceeding.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the application of Tampa Electric Company to issue, sell, exchange and/or assume securities during the twelve month period ending December 31, 2016, is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that Tampa Electric Company's request to issue, sell and/or exchange any combination of long-term debt and equity securities and/or assume liabilities or obligations as guarantor, endorser, or surety in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1.5 billion during the twelve month period, ending December 31, 2016, is granted. It is further

ORDERED that Tampa Electric Company's request to issue, sell, exchange and/or assume short-term debt, with the maximum amount of short-term debt, as described above, outstanding at any one time will be \$1.0 billion, during the twelve month period ending December 31, 2016, is granted. It is further

ORDERED that Tampa Electric Company shall file a consummation report in compliance with Rule 25-8.009, Florida Administrative Code, within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year in which it issues any securities authorized by this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open to monitor the issuance and/or sale of securities until Tampa Electric Company submits and Commission staff has reviewed the Consummation Report, at which time it shall be closed administratively.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 29th day of October, 2015.



CARLOTTA S. STAUFFER  
Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

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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 Office of Commission Clerk, 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 Office of Commission Clerk, 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.