#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Joint Petition of West Florida Electric	)	
Cooperative Association, Inc. and Florida	) 1	Docket No.
Public Utilities Company for approval of a	)	
territorial agreement concerning service to	)	Filed:
two locations in Jackson County	)	
	)	

### JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT

West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. ("WFEC") and Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPUC"), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby request the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") to approve the Territorial Agreement (the "Agreement") attached hereto as Exhibit "A", which would allow the companies to provide permanent electric service to the customers as described herein. In support of this Joint Petition, WFEC and FPUC state as follows:

1. The names and mailing addresses of Petitioners are:

West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. P.O. Box 127 Graceville, Florida 32440

Florida Public Utilities Company P.O. Box 610 Marianna, Florida 32447

2. All notices, communications, pleadings and orders should be directed to:

### FOR WEST FLORIDA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

William B. Willingham, Esq. Michelle L. Hershel, Esq. Florida Electric Cooperatives Assn., Inc. 2916 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (850) 877-6166 (850) 656-5485 (fax)

Russell Dunaway
Vice President, Finance and Administration
West Florida Electric Cooperative
Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 127
Graceville, Florida 32440
(850) 263-3231
(850) 263-3726 (fax)

## FOR FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY

Norman Horton, Jr. Messer Caparello & Self P.O. Box 1876 Tallahassee, Florida 32302 (850) 222-0720 (850) 224-4359 (fax) Mark Cutshaw
Director, Northwest Florida
Florida Public Utilities Company
P.O. Box 610
Marianna, Florida 32447
(850) 526-6811
(850) 526-6815 (fax)

- 3. WFEC is an electric cooperative that provides electric service to its member/owners in Jackson County. FPUC is an investor-owned electric utility that provides electric service to its customers in Jackson County. WFEC and FPUC have entered into a joint territorial agreement to resolve a dispute regarding permanent electric service to two new customers in Jackson County. The Commission has jurisdiction to review and approve the Agreement pursuant to Section 366.04(2)(d), Florida Statutes.
- 4. The customers involved are Racetrac Petrolum, Inc. ("Racetrac") and residential apartments on property that is owned by Mr. James Grant ("Grant"). The parties agree that WFEC and FPUC both are capable of providing reliable electric service to Racetrac and Grant, but both utilities believe that it is in the best interest of all their consumers if the Commission resolves this territorial dispute in a manner that benefits all of the consumers of both utilities.
- 5. In order to eliminate further uneconomic duplication of facilities and to insure that the facilities of WFEC and FPUC do not become crossed or intermingled, the utilities have worked cooperatively toward an equitable resolution and have reached the Agreement attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A". The Agreement addresses the provision of electric service in Jackson County for customers Racetrac and Grant, and the responsibility for the removal of certain temporary facilities and the costs associated therewith. The Agreement is conditioned upon

approval of the Commission.

- 6. Racetrac is located at 2496 Highway 231 in Cottondale, Florida. WFEC has an existing three-phase distribution line on the north edge of Racetrac's property. WFEC can serve Racetrac by installing a transformer on its existing pole. The builder has extended conduit for the permanent service to the base of WFEC's pole. The differential between FPUC's and WFEC's rates has been explained to Michael R. Volavka, Construction Coordinator with Racetrac Petroleum, Inc., and he has agreed to take permanent service from WFEC.
- 7. Grant is located at 2422 Standfast Lane in Marianna, Florida. FPUC has historically served the site with the type of service that is being requested by Mr. Grant. More specifically, FPUC previously provided single phase service to a single family home and well pump, and the proposed apartments will require single phase residential service. The primary facilities that FPUC previously used to provide service to the site are still on Mr. Grant's property. The differential between FPUC's and WFEC's rates has been explained to Mr. Grant and he has agreed to take permanent service from FPUC.
  - 8. No transfer of existing customers or facilities will occur as a result of the Agreement.
- 9. WFEC and FPUC maintain that the Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A" appropriately prevents further uneconomic duplication of facilities and will insure that the facilities of the utilities do not become crossed or intermingled. The resolution should enhance reliability by providing stable conditions on which to plan future expansions and upgrades and is in the public interest. Both parties support a determination by the Commission that WFEC should provide permanent electric service to Racetrac and FPUC should provide permanent electric service to Mr. Grant's property.

WHEREFORE, WFEC and FPUC respectively jointly request that the Commission approve the Agreement attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A".

Respectfully submitted the Aday of July, 2004,

William B. Willingham, Esq.

Michelle L. Hershel, Esq.

Florida Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc.

2916 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Attorneys for West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.

Norman Horton, Jr.

Messer Caparello & Self

P.O. Box 1876

Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities Company

# **Territorial Agreement**

This Agreement is made between West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. ("WFEC") and Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPUC") in order to provide electric utility service to two customers in an economical and non-duplicative fashion and to enhance future reliability for each utility's customer base. WFEC and FPUC (the "Parties") hereby agree as follows:

- 1. FPUC is providing temporary construction service to Racetrac Petroleum, Inc. ("Racetrac"), which is located at 2496 Highway 231, Cottondale, Florida 32431. The Parties agree that Racetrac Petroleum, Inc. will receive permanent electric service from WFEC, and that FPUC's temporary facilities will be removed at FPUC's expense upon WFEC providing permanent service.
- 2. WFEC is providing temporary construction service to Mr. James Grant's property ("Grant"), which is located at 2422 Standfast Lane, Marianna, Florida 32446. The Parties agree that Grant will receive permanent electric service from FPUC, and that WFEC's temporary facilities will be removed at WFEC's expense upon FPUC providing service.
- 3. Removal of the facilities as set forth above shall occur on a date or dates to be agreed upon by the Parties.
- 4. This Agreement shall be submitted jointly by the Parties to the Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC") for approval. This Agreement shall become effective on the date that the FPSC's order approving the Agreement becomes final and effective, and shall remain in effect (a) for an initial term of thirty (30) years and shall automatically renew for successive ten (10) year periods unless either Party gives written notice of intent to terminate at least one (1) year prior to the end of the initial term or any renewal period, or (b) until modified or vacated by a final and non-appealable order of the FPSC or a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 5. This Agreement will become void and unenforceable should the FPSC's jurisdiction in service territorial matters be ruled invalid by a court of final appellate jurisdiction.
- 6. This Agreement may be modified only upon the agreement of the Parties and the approval of the FPSC.

7. The Parties have entered into this Agreement solely for the purpose of adhering to Florida's policy that favors territorial agreements between electric utilities. This Agreement is governed by Section 366.04(2)(d), Florida Statutes, that expressly confers authority on the FPSC to approve territorial agreements between electric utilities. Upon approval by the FPSC, this Agreement will merge into and become part of the FPSC order that approved it.

AGREED this <u>30 th</u> day of <u>June</u>, <u>2004</u>.

WEST FLORIDA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

BY: Neen S. Rus

TITLE: Executive Vice President & CEO

DATE: 6-30-04

FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY

BY: P. Mark Culstian

TITLE: Director, North West Florida

DATE: 6/30/04

**EXHIBIT "A"**