

Commission, and the Jacksonville Utilities Commission is simply for emergency purposes.

As a matter of fact, last year the only use of these emergency purposes was one-third of 1 percent of the electricity consumed by the Florida Power & Light Corp.

Now, when you try to carve that down as to how much comes from the Florida Power Corp. it is infinitesimal, and yet this is what the Commission is trying to hang its hat on.

The witnesses from the power company can't say this, but I can. How silly can you be? It completely throws out of the whole concept of intrastate operation and interstate regulations everything that we know is intrastate, and if the Congress doesn't act on this thing we might just as well throw this interstate commerce business out of complete operation because if you permit the Power Commission to go this far then everything of course would be interstate.

Those are the facts of the matter as far as the regulation is concerned. There are two other things that I think are important.

All of us are trying to hold down costs these days as far as consumers are concerned and if we permit the Federal Power Commission to take jurisdiction over this particular company, Florida Power & Light Co., as well as the others involved, I can tell you as far as Florida Power & Light is concerned it is going to cost them \$4 to \$6 million to initially submit their information to the Power Commission for the regulations and it will cost them somewhere between a half million and \$600,000 yearly to comply with the Power Commission regulation, and the consumers in Florida take a dim view of this I know.

As a matter of fact, we have done a pretty good job in Florida under State regulations. There have been reductions in this particular company involved, Florida Power & Light, 10 in number, over the last 10 years and as a matter of fact right now the average retail rate as far as consumers are concerned in the State of Florida is 12½ percent below that of the national average as far as this company is concerned.

And also their rates rank fourth from lowest among the 20 largest companies in the country, consumer rates. All we are going to do here if we permit this arrogation of authority by the Federal Power Commission is to boost consumer rates in Florida when we are doing an excellent job as it is.

The bill is a narrow one. I think it properly hits only at intrastate facilities and I think it is a proper bill for the committee to pass and I hope they do.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you very much, Congressman Gurney.

Are there any questions of Congressman Gurney?

If not, we thank you very much for your contribution.

Mr. GURNEY. Thank you.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Pickle.

STATEMENT OF HON. J. J. PICKLE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. PICKLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a prepared statement that is only a little over two pages. I think it would save time if I would just present my statement and read it to the committee if this is agreeable.

Mr. MACDONALD. Yes, sir.