

These ties are strong enough if the capacity were available to carry the entire load of the Tampa Electric Co. system. I would also like to point out that in tying in to the Florida Power system which is jurisdictional that we have this long stretch of line to the Georgia line and there is no conceivable way that we have been able to figure out how power from Georgia can get into our system.

I would also like to say, still diverting from my prepared statement, that we are basically objecting to further regulation of the Tampa Electric Co. because this further regulation can serve no useful purpose. We have no municipals or cooperatives that we are serving. We are adequately served and regulated by the Public Service Commission of the State of Florida and there is no purpose that we know of that could be served to the benefit of anyone by additional regulation by the Federal Power Commission.

Now to return to my statement.

Tampa Electric Co. provides approximately 15 percent of the total requirements for Florida. Its growth rate, like all areas in the State, has been excellent. The Florida Public Service Commission has closely watched this growth to see that the company provides reliable, high-quality service to its customers at the lowest reasonable rate. The entire State has an enviable service record despite the occasional severe weather due to hurricanes.

We have a very fine service record in the State of Florida with regard to outages. This record has been accomplished primarily by designing our facilities for high reliability during such disturbances. However, our transmission interconnections with neighboring utilities offer further protection to our customers during these emergencies. These interconnections enable each of us to draw on each other for surplus power when it is available and can be distributed advantageously for consumption in Florida.

We are also using these interconnections to improve service reliability and to increase available reserve capacity through coordination of generation maintenance schedules, with other utilities. We do not operate in isolation. We have very strong ties.

However, Tampa Electric's interchange of energy with its neighbors is entirely intrastate. No other State has any interest in such transactions, and since concededly the State commission regulates the retail sales of all Florida companies, we can see no reason why the consumers should be burdened with additional regulation by the Federal Power Commission.

I would like to point out here that we report our rate of return to our State commission monthly. Also the Federal Power Commission now receives regularly monthly reports on power transactions and each year a full report on investment, income, expenses and all other facts useful for any studies which they may wish to make. They do not need additional jurisdiction over the Tampa Electric to secure this information.

The Tampa Electric Co. has not entered into any contracts that involve any State other than Florida. We have no connection and no power flow to another State. Therefore we see no reason for a Federal agency to assume jurisdiction over us.

But notwithstanding these facts, on December 24, 1963, as in other case the Federal Power Commission advised the Tampa Electric Co.