UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Duke Energy South Bay

Docket No. ER03-117-000

JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PROTESTS

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Pursuant to Rule 212 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission"), 18 C.F.R. § 385.212, the California Independent System Operator Corporation ("ISO"), San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E")¹, and the California Electricity Oversight Board ("EOB") hereby move for an extension of time to file protests in the above-captioned proceeding². In support thereof, the Parties state as follows:

I. BACKGROUND

On October 31, 2002, Duke Energy South Bay ("DESB") submitted an informational rate filing proposing rate revisions under its Reliability Must-Run ("RMR") Agreement with the ISO ("DESB Filing").³ The DESB Filing relates to RMR Agreement as to the South Bay Power Plant.⁴ The filing was made to comply with the terms of a settlement agreement approved by the Commission⁵

The ISO, SDG&E and the EOB have filed motions to intervene in this matter.

The California Public Utilities Commission and Duke Energy South Bay have indicated that they do not oppose this motion.

Because the generating units covered by these agreements must operate at certain times for the reliability of the transmission grid, they are referred to as "reliability must-run" or "RMR" units and the agreements covering them are referred to as "RMR Agreements." Other capitalized terms that are not defined in this filing have the same meaning set forth in the Master Definitions Supplement, Appendix A to the ISO Tariff.

Under Section 5.2.8 of the ISO tariff, costs payable by the ISO under the RMR Agreement with DESB are passed through to SDG&E.

California Independent System Operator Corp., 87 FERC ¶ 61,250 (1999).

under which each RMR Owner is required to adjust rates annually, beginning with calendar year 2002, using the rate formula set forth in Schedule F of the RMR Agreement. The DESB Filing is intended to comply with requirements in Schedule F of the RMR Agreement to provide information supporting updated Annual Fixed Revenue Requirements ("AFRR") and Variable O&M Rates. The DESB Filing also seeks pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act ("FPA")⁶ to make certain updates to the rates that either 1) result from the new AFRR and Variable O&M Rates or 2) are otherwise provided for on annual basis in the RMR Agreement.

Schedule F establishes the procedures and methodology for determining the AFRR and Variable O&M Rates for facilities designated as RMR Units. The DESB Filing is intended to provide updated cost information used in determining the AFRR and the Variable O&M Rates for its RMR Units to be effective January 1, 2003. In addition, the DESB Filing updates a number of RMR Agreement Schedules: including the Monthly Reserve MWh for Air Emission Limitations; Contract Service Limits and Owners Repair Cost Obligation in Schedule A, the values in Tables B-1 through B-6 in Schedule B, and the Prepaid Start-up Charges in Schedule D.

On November 6, 2002, the Commission issued a "Notice of Filing" setting November 21, 2002, as the final date for interventions and protests.

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⁶ 18 USC § 824d.

II. BASIS FOR THE MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

The Commission, in its November 6 Notice in this proceeding, allowed the standard 21 days for the filing of interventions and protests. However, Schedule F, Article I, Part B of the RMR Agreement specifies the time allowed for the Commission, the ISO, SDG&E, the EOB and other affected parties to review the proposed rates filed under Schedule F. Article I, Part B of Schedule F provides, in relevant part:

(i) discovery requests by the FERC staff and affected parties shall be made within 20 days of the filing, with responses by the Owner due within 35 days of the filing, and (ii) protests, if any, by affected parties shall be filed with the FERC within 45 days of the filing.

Thus, in accordance with the RMR Agreement, as to matters relating to the Schedule F Informational Package, a protest should be due within 45 days of filing, or on December 17, 2002. The parties to the original *pro forma* RMR Agreement, including DESB, contemplated that additional time would be necessary to review the Schedule F proposed rate changes. Additional time is necessary in order to allow the parties to obtain further information, as necessary, and work out among themselves any discrepancies in the data provided. Moreover, allowing the time set forth in the RMR Agreement serves the public interest because it will substantially increase the likelihood that parties will be able to work out any discrepancies and thus potentially avoid protests.

Further, it would promote regulatory efficiency to extend the time to file protests as to the other items in the DESB Filing as well, to provide the ISO, SDG&E, the EOB and other affected parties with additional time in which to

explore resolution of other outstanding issues. In 2002, the Parties were able to resolve with DESB Schedule F and other Schedule update issues simultaneously in the case of most RMR Agreements. Accordingly, the Parties consider that extending the deadline for protests in this proceeding as to all issues could expedite the process for resolving all RMR Agreement update issues.

III. CONCLUSION

Date: November 14, 2002

For the foregoing reasons, the Parties respectfully request that the Commission extend the time for filing protests until December 17, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 14, 2002

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426

> Re: Duke Energy South Bay, Docket No. ER03-117-000

Dear Secretary Salas:

Enclosed please find an electronic filing in the above-captioned proceeding of the Joint Motion for Extension of Time for Protests. Thank you for your attention to this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Solé Counsel for the California Independent System Operator Corporation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Dated at Folsom, C	CA, on this 14th day of November, 2002.
	Jeanne M. Solé