Matilda Sanders

From: terry.scobie@verizon.com

Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2008 1:53 PM

To: Filings@psc.state.fl.us

Cc: de.oroark@verizon.com; David Christian; demetria.g.clark@verizon.com; joan.gage@verizon.com

Subject: Docket No. 060476-TL - Comments of Verizon Florida LLC

Attachments: 060476 VZ FL Comments 1-22-08.pdf



The attached filing is submitted in Docket No. 060476-TL on behalf of Verizon Florida LLC by

Dulaney L. O'Roark
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Tampa, Florida 33601
(813) 483-1256
de.oroark@verizon.com

The attached .pdf document consists of 4 pages (cover letter-1 page, Comments-2 pages, and Certificate of Service-1 page).

Terry Scobie
Executive Adm. Assistant
Verizon Legal Department
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DOCUMENT HUMBER-DATE

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Dulaney L. O'Roark IIIVice President-General Counsel, Southeast Region
Legal Department



5055 North Point Parkway Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

Phone 678-259-1449 Fax 678-259-1589 de.oroark@verizon.com

January 22, 2008 - VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 060476-TL

Petition to initiate rulemaking to amend Rule 25-24.630(1) and Rule 25-

24.516(1), F.A.C., by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for filing in the above matter are the Comments of Verizon Florida LLC. Service has been made as indicated on the Certificate of Service. If there are any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at 678-259-1449.

Sincerely,

s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III

Dulaney L. O'Roark III

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Enclosures

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition to initiate rulemaking to amend) Rule 25-24.630(1) and Rule 25-24.516(1),) F.A.C., by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.)

Docket No. 060476-TL Filed: January 22, 2008

COMMENTS OF VERIZON FLORIDA LLC

By memorandum dated January 3, 2008, Staff filed proposed revisions to Rules 25-24.603(1) and 25-24.516(1) (collectively, the "Proposed Revisions"). Staff has requested that parties provide comments on the Proposed Revisions by January 22, 2008. In compliance with Staff's request, Verizon Florida LLC ("Verizon") submits the following comments.

This docket was opened after BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. filed a petition on June 26, 2006 requesting that Rules 25-24.603(1) and 25-24.516(1) be revised to provide for market-based rates for payphone and operator services. Verizon filed comments on September 15, 2006 in which it supported market-based pricing for these services. Verizon adopts those comments and incorporates them herein by reference. Verizon noted in its comments that many intermodal alternatives exist for payphone and operator services, giving consumers many service options. In this competitive environment, price caps do not serve the public interest, but rather harm consumers by preventing the market from providing the optimal level of services and prices. Among other things, price caps have contributed to the decrease in payphone revenues, which in turn has resulted in a lower number of payphones being available to the public. Moreover, most other states either have adopted market pricing for these services or a much lighter regulatory touch than has Florida.

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Staff's Proposed Revisions do not go nearly far enough in addressing the problems caused by Florida's payphone and operator services rate caps. Staff proposes that providers be allowed to increase payphone and operator services rates using an inflation-based factor. This change – after almost a decade of the current price caps -- is too little too late to bring Florida's rates in line with prevailing market conditions. Verizon respectfully submits that the Proposed Revisions should be modified to provide for market-based rates, which will best serve Florida consumers.

Respectfully submitted on January 22, 2008.

By: s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III

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Attorney for Verizon Florida LLC

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing were sent via U. S. mail on January 22, 2008 to:

Staff Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
James Meza, III
Manuel A. Gurdian
c/o Nancy Sims
150 South Monroe Street, Suite 400
Tallahassee, FL 32301

s/ Dulaney L. O'Roark III