

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Resolution by Walton ) DOCKET NO. 940420-TL  
County Board of Commissioners ) ORDER NO. PSC-94-1378-FOF-TL  
for extended area service (EAS) ) ISSUED: November 14, 1994  
between all Walton County )  
exchanges and Fort Walton Beach )  
exchange )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
JOE GARCIA  
JULIA L. JOHNSON  
DIANE K. KIESLING

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION  
ORDER DENYING EXTENDED AREA SERVICE

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

This docket was initiated pursuant to a resolution by the Walton County Board of Commissioners for extended area service between all Walton County exchanges and the Fort Walton Beach exchange. All of the exchanges are served by Central Telephone Company of Florida (Centel) except the Paxton exchange, which is served by Florala Telephone Company (Florala). All of the exchanges are located in the Pensacola local access transport area (LATA). By Order No. PSC-94-0605-PCO-TL, issued May 23, 1994, we required Centel and Florala to conduct traffic studies on these routes.

Rule 25-4.060(3), Florida Administrative Code, requires a calling rate of at least three M/A/Ms (Messages per Access Line per Month) in cases where the petitioning exchange contains less than half the number of access lines as the exchange to which EAS is

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desired. This rule further requires that at least 50% of the subscribers in the petitioning exchange make two or more calls per month to the larger exchange to qualify for traditional EAS.

Because of the number of routes in this request, Table A contains only the routes with M/A/Ms greater than 1.

TABLE A  
INTEREXCHANGE ONE-WAY CALLING RATES

| FROM/TO                      | ROUTES WITH M/A/Ms >1 | CUSTOMERS MAKING 2+ CALLS PER MONTH |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Freeport/Valparaiso *        | 8.00                  | 49%                                 |
| Seagrove Bch/Ft Walton Bch * | 7.63                  | 38%                                 |
| Seagrove Bch/Destin *        | 6.25                  | 47%                                 |
| Freeport/Ft Walton Bch       | 4.51                  | 47%                                 |
| DeFuniak Spgs/Ft Walton Bch  | 3.30                  | 36%                                 |
| Glendale/Ft Walton Bch       | 1.28                  | 20%                                 |
| Glendale/Valparaiso *        | 1.22                  | 15%                                 |
| Destin/Seagrove Bch *        | 1.17                  | 12%                                 |
| Ponce De Leon/Ft Walton Bch  | 1.14                  | 18%                                 |
| Glendale/Crestview           | 1.14                  | 18%                                 |
| Ponce De Leon/Crestview      | 1.04                  | 15%                                 |
| Valparaiso/Freeport *        | 1.01                  | 11%                                 |

\* \$.20 Message Rated Route

Thus, based on the requirements of Rule 25-4.060(2), Florida Administrative Code, we find that none of the routes under consideration qualify for nonoptional, flat rate, two-way EAS.

Historically, we have implemented the \$.25 calling plan on routes that did not meet the calling volume or distribution requirements but exhibited a substantial showing. Typically, these cases were close to meeting the rule requirements but failed either on the distribution or volume level by a small percentage.

Although ordinarily we would recommend an alternative toll plan such as the \$.25 calling plan on the Freeport/Fort Walton Beach route, we will not make a determination on this route at this time. We are currently reviewing EAS issues, including alternative toll plans, in the EAS rulemaking docket (930220-TL). Once criteria have been established for alternative toll plans, we shall reevaluate the Freeport/Fort Walton Beach route.

Also, the Freeport/Valparaiso route currently has the \$.20 message rate plan and has 8.00 M/A/Ms with 49% of customers making 2 or more calls. Currently, there are no criteria in the rules to determine if or when a message rate or message/measured route qualifies for flat rate EAS. We are reviewing this issue in the EAS rulemaking docket. Once criteria have been established determining the flat rate EAS qualifying thresholds for routes that currently have a message rate or message/measured rated plan, we shall reevaluate the Freeport/Valparaiso route.

It is therefore

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the request by the Walton County Board of Commissioners for extended area service between all Walton County exchanges and the Fort Walton Beach exchange is hereby denied for the reasons set forth in the text of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that no alternative plans shall be offered on these routes except that we shall review Freeport/Fort Walton Beach after the conclusion of Docket No. 930220-TL. It is further

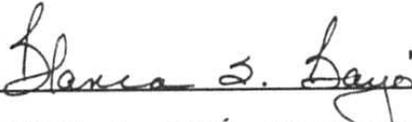
ORDERED that we shall reevaluate the Freeport/Valparaiso route to determine if it qualifies for flat rate EAS after the conclusion of Docket No. 930220-TL. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending resolution of Docket No. 930220-TL. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall become final and effective on the date set forth below if no timely protest is filed pursuant to the requirements set forth below.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 14th  
day of November, 1994.



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BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on December 5, 1994.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

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If this order becomes final and effective on the date described above, any party substantially affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.