

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Proposed tariff revision to)	DOCKET NO. 900664-TL
establish rates for call screening by)	ORDER NO. 23873
Northeast Florida Telephone Company,)	ISSUED: 12-13-90
Inc.)	
)	

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL MCK. WILSON, Chairman
 THOMAS M. BEARD
 BETTY EASLEY
 FRANK S. MESSERSMITH

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

Northeast Florida Telephone Company filed a tariff revision on July 12, 1990, to establish rates for call screening. The company waived the 60 day statutory period on the filing in order to have additional time to provide the necessary information regarding the filing. The Company has been offering this service for no charge for some time but due to an oversight had not tariffed or rated the service. Now it desires to charge for the service.

Call screening is a service whereby an operator screens incoming or outgoing calls and does not permit certain of the calls to be completed. This particular type of call screening is performed by the operator at the operator terminal. When a toll call is attempted from a subscribed line, a signal flashes on the operators screen informing the operator that only certain calls can be allowed to complete. These services are needed to allow customers greater control over their access lines. We encourage companies to file such tariffs whenever possible.

In Northeast's filing, the proposed call screening services are unbundled into three offerings: A) no collect or third number billing, B) no third number billings, and C) no collect billing. The Company proposes to offer option A at \$1.00 per line screened and options B or C at \$.60 per line screened. We note that these rates are comparable with those charged by other companies.

As stated earlier, the Company has been providing these services for some time but has done so at no charge to the customer. If customers continue subscribing to the same quantities

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

ORDER NO. 23873
DOCKET NO. 900664-TL
PAGE 2

of service that they are now receiving, the revenue impact to the Company will be \$5,983 per year. The largest impact to a single customer will be \$96.00 per year.

Currently, Northeast contracts with Southern Bell for the actual provision of operator services. Southern Bell provides the call screening service at no charge to Northeast. The only cost to Northeast is the cost of the service order processing. This should be recovered by the secondary service order charge.

Upon consideration, we find that the tariff should be approved. We agree that the Company should begin charging for the service. This is consistent with our belief that revenues should first be recovered from vertical services in order to maintain minimal basic local service rates.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the proposed tariff revision establishing rates for call screening by Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that this docket be closed at the end of the protest period described below unless a protest is filed pursuant to the requirements described below. It is further

ORDERED that, if a protest is filed pursuant to the requirements described below, any revenue resulting from a rate increase, if any, shall be held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 13th day of DECEMBER, 1990.



STEVE TRIBBLE, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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ORDER NO. 23873
DOCKET NO. 900664-TL
PAGE 3

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 Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at his office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on January 3, 1991.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

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.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely 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 sewer 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 date this Order becomes final, 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.