

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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M E M O R A N D U M

August 1, 1996

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYO)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHELFER) *AKS*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (CANZANO, BARONE) *MCB for MMB*

RE: DOCKET NO. 910529-TL - REQUEST BY PASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR EXTENDED AREA SERVICE BETWEEN ALL PASCO COUNTY EXCHANGES.

DOCKET NO. 920642-TL - RESOLUTION BY CITY COUNCIL OF PORT RICHEY FOR EXTENDED AREA SERVICE BETWEEN THE HUDSON EXCHANGE AND TARPON SPRINGS, CLEARWATER, ST. PETERSBURG AND TAMPA EXCHANGES; ALSO BETWEEN THE NEW PORT RICHEY AND CLEARWATER, ST. PETERSBURG, AND TAMPA EXCHANGES.

DOCKET NO. 930172-TL - PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF BOCA GRANDE REQUESTING EXTENDED AREA SERVICE BETWEEN BOCA GRANDE AND NORTH FT. MYERS, NORTH PORT, VENICE, ENGLEWOOD, PINE ISLAND, NORTH CAPE CORAL AND CAPE CORAL.

AGENDA: AUGUST 13, 1996 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
- INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: S:\PSC\CMU\WP\910529TL.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

- Because of previous interLATA prohibitions imposed on GTE Florida Incorporated (GTEFL), the dockets in this recommendation were postponed pending resolution of the interLATA restrictions. On February 8, 1996, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 became effective. This law removed the interLATA prohibitions for GTEFL.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08044 AUG-1 1996

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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- By Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL, issued April 25, 1996, the Commission ordered GTEFL and United Telephone Company of Florida (United) to implement extended calling service (ECS) on several interLATA routes by October 22, 1996. The order further required that interexchange carriers may continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry. The routes at issue in these dockets are Tampa-North/San Antonio, Tampa-North/Dade City, Tampa-Central/San Antonio, Tampa-Central/Dade City and Englewood/Boca Grande.
- On July 24, 1996, GTEFL filed a petition for Temporary Waiver and Implementation Extension. GTEFL states that due to certain switch limitations, it cannot maintain the status quo on carriage of interexchange traffic on one small portion of the Tampa-Central routes. GTEFL seeks a temporary waiver of the portion of Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL which requires that interexchange carriers may continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry. GTEFL also requests an extension of the ordered implementation date of October 22, 1996 until December 11, 1996 to allow sufficient notice to its customers if the temporary waiver is granted.
- On July 25, 1996, United filed a petition for Temporary Waiver and Implementation Extension. United states that switch limitations do not allow ECS calls dialed on a seven or ten digit basis to be completed by dialing 1+ or 10XXX and routed to an IXC. United seeks a temporary waiver until fourth quarter 1997 of the portion of Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL which requires that interexchange carriers may continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry. In addition, United requests an extension of the ordered implementation date of October 22, 1996 until December 11, 1996 to allow sufficient notice to its customers if the temporary waiver is granted.

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DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should GTEFL and United's Petitions for Temporary Waiver and Implementation Extension be granted?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, GTEFL and United's Petitions for Temporary Waiver and Implementation Extension should be granted.

STAFF ANALYSIS: On July 24, 1996 and July 25, 1996, respectively, GTEFL and United filed petitions for temporary waiver and implementation extension of Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL. The routes at issue in this order are Tampa-North/San Antonio, Tampa-North/Dade City, Tampa-Central/San Antonio, Tampa-Central/Dade City and Englewood/Boca Grande.

Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL, issued April 25, 1996, required GTEFL and United to implement extended calling service (ECS) on several interLATA routes by October 22, 1996. The order further required that interexchange carriers may continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry.

GTEFL and United state that because of specific switch limitations they cannot comply with the portion of the Order that allows interexchange carriers (IXCs) to continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry. Listed in Table A by exchange is a summary of the available means of IXC access.

TABLE A

| EXCHANGE | LEC | SWITCH TYPE | AVAILABLE IXC ACCESS |
|---|--------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Tampa-Central* (only Hyde Park c.o.) | GTEFL | DMS-100 (REL 5) | 800 |
| Dade City | UNITED | DMS-100 (REL 6) | 10XXX and 800 |
| San Antonio | UNITED | DMS-100 (REL 6) | 10XXX and 800 |
| Boca Grande | UNITED | Alcatel 1210 | 800 |

*Only 4.5 percent of the 510,000 access lines in the Tampa-Central exchange would be affected.

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As shown in Table A, IXCs cannot be accessed by both 10XXX and 1+ dialing in some switches; however, IXCs will have the ability to carry this traffic via 1-800 access regardless of the switch.

GTEFL and United request temporary waivers so that they can provide ECS to their customers in a timely manner, allowing that the routes will be made available to IXCs following the software upgrade to the DMS-100 switches in the fourth quarter of 1997. The projected release date for the software needed to upgrade United's DMS-100 (REL 6) to allow both ECS and 1+ dialing is December 1996. The projected release date for the upgrade of DMS-100 (REL 7) is August 1997. GTEFL proposes to wait for the REL 7 software since it will not only allow 1+ and 10XXX dialing but will also include additional operator services and number portability capability.

GTEFL and United also request a waiver of the six month implementation requirement. The companies request a December 11, 1996, implementation date to allow time for a 30-day customer notification and to implement the routes on a two-way basis.

Staff does not object to the parties' requests for temporary waiver of the portion of Order No. PSC-96-0557-FOF-TL which requires that interexchange carriers may continue to carry the same types of traffic on these routes that they are now authorized to carry. Even though switch limitations on these ECS routes may not allow a customer to access an IXC by 1+ or 10XXX dialing to carry these ECS calls, the customer may access an IXC via an 800 number. Staff does not believe this is a major concern since the waiver is temporary, and customers can still access most IXCs.

In addition, staff agrees with the companies' requests for an extension of time to implement the ECS routes if the temporary waiver is granted. GTEFL and United request an extension of time until December 11, 1996, to implement these interLATA ECS routes. This will allow for the protest period of the temporary waiver, allow the companies to provide 30-day customer notification prior to implementation, and allow the companies to implement ECS simultaneously on a two-way basis.

Accordingly, staff does not believe that the implementation of these interLATA routes should be delayed until 1+ and 10XXX dialing is available. Therefore, staff recommends that GTEFL and United's petitions for temporary waiver and implementation extension should be granted.

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ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, if no person whose substantial interests are affected files a protest within 21 days of the issuance date of the order from this recommendation, the order shall become final.

STAFF ANALYSIS: Yes, if no person whose substantial interests are affected files a protest within 21 days of the issuance date of the order from this recommendation, the order shall become final.