

Notice of Proposed Rule

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

RULE NO: RULE TITLE

25-4.109: Customer Deposits

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: This rule is amended in order to streamline, clarify and simplify the rule. Docket No. 080641-TP

SUMMARY: The amendments streamline and modify provisions relating to customer deposits, including amending the rule so that it is applicable to residential customers only.

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REGULATORY COSTS: The rule amendments benefit the Commission, companies, and customers by having a more simple, streamlined, and clarified rule, and companies' administrative costs would likely decrease.

Any person who wishes to provide information regarding a statement of estimated regulatory costs, or provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative must do so in writing within 21 days of this notice.

SPECIFIC AUTHORITY: 350.127(2) FS

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 364.03, 364.07, 364.19 FS

IF REQUESTED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE, A HEARING WILL BE SCHEDULED AND ANNOUNCED IN FAW.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 48 hours before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 (850) 413-6770. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS: Kathryn G.W. Cowdery, Office of General Counsel, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850, (850) 413-6216.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

25-4.109 Residential Customer Deposits.

(1) – (2) No change.

(3) New or additional deposits. A company may require upon reasonable written notice of not less than 15 days, a new deposit, where previously waived or returned, or an additional deposit, in order to secure payment of current bills. Provided, however, that the total amount of required deposit should not exceed twice the actual average monthly toll provided by or billed by the LEC plus one month's local service charge, for the 90-day period immediately prior to the date of notice. In the event the customer has had service less than 90 days, then the company shall base its new or additional deposit upon the actual average monthly billing available. ~~When the company has a good reason to believe payment by a nonresidential customer is in jeopardy and toll usage provided by or billed by the LEC is significantly above normal for that customer, the company may request a new or additional deposit. If the deposit requested is not paid within 48 hours, the company may discontinue service.~~

(4) Refund of deposit. After a customer has established a satisfactory payment record and has had continuous service for a period of 23 months, the company shall refund the residential customer's deposits ~~and shall, at its option, either refund or pay the higher rate of interest specified below for nonresidential deposits,~~ providing the customer has not, in the preceding 12 months:

(a) – (d) No change.

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(5) Interest on deposit.

(a) Each telephone company which requires deposits to be made by its customers shall pay a minimum interest on such deposits of 6 percent per annum. ~~The company shall pay an interest rate of 7 percent per annum on deposits of nonresidential customers qualifying under subsection (4) when the utility elects not to refund such deposit after 23 months.~~

(b) – (8) No change.

(9) This rule shall apply to residential service only.

Specific Authority 350.127(2) FS. Law Implemented 364.03, 364.07, 364.19 FS. History–New 12-1-68, Amended 4-1-69, 7-20-73, 3-31-76, 6-10-80, 9-16-80, 1-31-84, 10-13-88, 8-29-89, 4-25-94.

NAME OF PERSON ORIGINATING PROPOSED RULE: Dale Mailhot, Division of Regulatory Compliance, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850, (850) 413-6418.

NAME OF AGENCY HEAD WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED RULE: Florida Public Service Commission

DATE PROPOSED RULE APPROVED BY AGENCY HEAD: January 06, 2009

DATE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHED IN FAW: Volume 34, Number 39, September 26, 2008

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**Notices Submitted to ACW or Confirmed by ACW**

**Notices Submitted to ACW**

ID	Rule No/ Organization	Rule Title	Section	Issue	Date
6650434	1/9/2009	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Meeting	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6650337	1/9/2009	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Meeting	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6664984	25-4.023,...	Report of Interruptions, Extension of Facilities - Contributions in Aid of Construction, Intercept Service, Information to Customers, Initiation of Service	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6664208	25-4.110	Customer Billing for Local Exchange Telecommunications Companies	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6663529	25-4.109	Customer Deposits	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6663335	1/13/2009	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Meeting	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6662753	25-4.083	Preferred Carrier Freeze	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6662656	1/13/2009	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Meeting	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6662171	1/13/2009	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	Meeting	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6661880	25-4.073	Answering Time	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6661395	25-4.071	Adequacy of Service	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6660813	25-4.070	Customer Trouble Reports	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6660037	25-4.066	Availability of Service	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6659261	25-4.046	Incremental Cost Data Submitted by Local Exchange Companies	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6658582	25-4.0185	Periodic Reports	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6657612	25-4.002	Application and Scope	Proposed	1/23/2009 Vol. 35/03	1/14/2009
6637533	1/7/2009	psc	Meeting	1/16/2009 Vol. 35/02	1/7/2009

**Notices Confirmed by ACW**

None.

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