

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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COMMISSION
CLERK

In re: Implementation of Florida lifeline program involving bundled service packages and placement of additional enrollment requirements on customers.

DOCKET NO. 080234-TP
ORDER NO.
ISSUED:

COMMISSION STAFF'S PREHEARING STATEMENT

Pursuant to Order No. PSC-08-0594-PCO-TP, issued September 15, 2008, and Order No. PSC-08-0834-PCO-TP, issued December 24, 2008, the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission files its Prehearing Statement.

- a. All Known Witnesses Issues

Robert J. Casey 1,2,3,4

- b. All Known Exhibits

RJC-1 Verizon Florida LLC, General Services Tariff, 14th Revised Page 11.0.2

Sponsor: Robert J. Casey

RJC-2 November 30, 2000, Letter from Ms. Michelle Robinson, Verizon Director-Regulatory Affairs to Mr. Walter D'Haeseleer, PSC Director of Competitive Services

Sponsor: Robert J. Casey

- c. Staff's Statement of Basic Position

Staff has no position at this time. Staff's final positions will be based upon all the evidence in the record.

COM 5
 ECR _____
 GCL _____
 OPC _____
 RCP _____
 SSC _____
 SGA _____
 ADM _____
 CLK _____

Testifying Staff Position

It is in the best interest of Florida for this Commission to require all eligible telecommunications carriers to apply the lifeline discount to bundled service offerings which include functionality that is comparable to that described at 47 CFR 54.101(a)(1)-(9) or Section 364.02(1), Florida Statutes.

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d. Staff's Position on the Issues

ISSUE 1: UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, MAY THE COMMISSION REQUIRE FLORIDA ETCs THAT CHARGE FEDERAL END USER COMMON LINE CHARGES, OR EQUIVALENT FEDERAL CHARGES, TO APPLY THE LIFELINE DISCOUNT TO BUNDLED SERVICE OFFERINGS WHICH INCLUDE FUNCTIONALITY THAT IS COMPARABLE TO THAT DESCRIBED AT 47 CFR 54.101(A)(1)-(9) OR SECTION 364.02(1), FLORIDA STATUTES?

STAFF: Staff has no position at this time.

STAFF WITNESS' POSITION:

Yes. The Commission can require Florida ETCs that charge federal End User Common Line charges, or equivalent federal charges, to apply the lifeline discount to bundled service offerings which include functionality that is comparable to that described at 47 CFR 54.101(a)(1)-(9) or Section 364.02(1), Florida Statutes.

ISSUE 2: UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, MAY THE COMMISSION REQUIRE FLORIDA ETCs THAT DO NOT CHARGE FEDERAL END USER COMMON LINE CHARGES, OR EQUIVALENT FEDERAL CHARGES, TO APPLY THE LIFELINE DISCOUNT TO BUNDLED SERVICE OFFERINGS WHICH INCLUDE FUNCTIONALITY THAT IS COMPARABLE TO THAT DESCRIBED AT 47 CFR 54.101(A)(1)-(9) OR SECTION 364.02(1), FLORIDA STATUTES?

STAFF: Staff has no position at this time.

STAFF WITNESS' POSITION:

Yes. The Commission can require Florida ETCs that do not charge federal End User Common Line charges, or equivalent federal charges, to apply the lifeline discount to bundled service offerings which include functionality that is comparable to that described at 47 CFR 54.101(a)(1)-(9) or Section 364.02(1), Florida Statutes.

ISSUE 3: SHOULD THE COMMISSION REQUIRE EACH FLORIDA ETC THAT CHARGES FEDERAL END USER COMMON LINE CHARGES, OR EQUIVALENT FEDERAL CHARGES, TO APPLY THE LIFELINE DISCOUNT TO ITS BUNDLED SERVICES WHICH INCLUDE FUNCTIONALITY THAT IS COMPARABLE TO THAT DESCRIBED AT 47 CFR 54.101(A)(1)-(9) OR SECTION 364.02(1), FLORIDA STATUTES?

STAFF: Staff has no position at this time.

STAFF WITNESS' POSITION:

Yes. Denying or limiting Lifeline benefits on bundled service offerings to eligible Lifeline consumers has created a barrier to Lifeline enrollment in Florida. Requiring each Florida ETC that charges federal End User Common Line charges, or equivalent federal charges, to apply the lifeline discount to its bundled services which include functionality that is comparable to that described at 47 CFR 54.101(a)(1)-(9) or Section 364.02(1), Florida Statutes, is in the public interest and will further the goals of the universal service program.

ISSUE 4: SHOULD THE COMMISSION REQUIRE EACH FLORIDA ETC THAT DOES NOT CHARGE FEDERAL END USER COMMON LINE CHARGES, OR EQUIVALENT FEDERAL CHARGES, TO APPLY THE LIFELINE DISCOUNT TO ITS BUNDLED SERVICES WHICH INCLUDE FUNCTIONALITY THAT IS COMPARABLE TO THAT DESCRIBED AT 47 CFR 54.101(A)(1)-(9) OR SECTION 364.02(1), FLORIDA STATUTES?

STAFF: Staff has no position at this time.

STAFF WITNESS' POSITION:

Yes. Denying or limiting Lifeline benefits on bundled service offerings to eligible Lifeline consumers has created a barrier to Lifeline enrollment in Florida. Requiring each Florida ETC that does not charge federal End User Common Line charges, or equivalent federal charges, to apply the lifeline discount to its bundled services which include functionality that is comparable to that described at 47 CFR 54.101(a)(1)-(9) or Section 364.02(1), Florida Statutes, is in the public interest and will further the goals of the universal service program.

e. Stipulations

None.

f. Pending Motions

None.

g. Pending Confidentiality Claims or Requests

None.

h. Objections to Witness Qualifications as an Expert

None.

i. Compliance with Order No. PSC-08-0594-PCO-TP and Order No. PSC-08-0834-PCO-TP

Staff has complied with all requirements of the Orders Establishing and Modifying Procedure entered in this docket.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of January, 2009.



CHARLES W. MURPHY
Staff Counsel

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the original and five correct copies of COMMISSION STAFF'S PREHEARING STATEMENT have been filed with Office of Commission Clerk and one copy has been furnished to the following by U. S. mail this 27th day of January, 2009:

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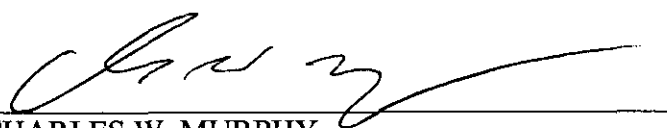
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