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STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison St. Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400 850-488-9330

July 5, 2001

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 991437-WU. 000604-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed is one document for filing in Docket No. 000604-TL.

Please indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed duplicate of this letter and return it to our office.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Beck,

Deputy Public Counsel

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CJB:bsr

Enclosure

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DOCKET NO. 000604-TL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S.

Mail or hand-delivery to the following parties on this 5th day July, 2001.

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COUNTY OF CHARLOTTE

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Charlotte County Administration Center 18500 Murdock Circle Port Charlotte, Florida 33948-1094 Phone: (941) 743-1300 FAX: (941) 743-1310

June 25, 2001

Public Counsel

Mr. Jack Shreve 812 Pepper Building 111 West Madison Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Dear Mr. Shreve:

I am writing regarding the Public Service Commission's proposals for area code relief for the 941 area code.

The idea to divide our community into two, different area codes would significantly alter our sense of community. Charlotte County has made notable progress uniting all of our geographic areas. Splitting the area code would essentially split our community and basically undermine our efforts thus far in promoting "community spirit" in a County that is already divided by two rivers and a harbor.

Additionally, a change to the area code would infringe on Charlotte County's continued economic and tourist development efforts. It is an expensive and time-consuming task for government as well as businesses to make the necessary changes to their advertising materials, especially when materials are distributed worldwide.

With regard to the overlay relief plan, Charlotte County boasts the largest percentage of senior citizens in the nation; therefore, could not support an overlay. An area code change would be extremely confusing and difficult for our elder population.

Please keep in mind that just five years ago, Charlotte County's area code was changed from 813 to 941. We accepted the change and endured the consequences. A process we would not like to repeat with yet another area code.

Letter to Mr. Shreve Dated June 25, 2001 · Page Two

If an area code change is absolutely necessary, please divide Charlotte and Lee Counties where there is already an acceptable division of population which is also supported by county, regional and state-wide planning efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

Adam Cummings, Chairman Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners

AC/dmg

cc: The Ho

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
The Honorable Jerry Paul, State Representative, District 71
Jan Winters, County Administrator

Renee F. Lee, County Attorney

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