

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Resolutions Filed by the) DOCKET NO. 930788-TL
Suwannee County Board of) ORDER NO. PSC-94-0280-FOF-TL
Commissioners and the Town of) ISSUED: March 10, 1994
Branford Requesting Extended)
Area Service (EAS) Between the)
Branford Exchange and the Lake)
City Exchange)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
DIANE K. KIESLING
LUIS J. LAUREDO

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER REQUIRING EAS SURVEY

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

By Resolution No. 93-22 and Resolution No. 93-1, the Suwannee County Commission and the Town of Branford, respectively, requested that this Commission implement extended area service (EAS) between the Branford and Lake City exchanges. In order to avoid "leap-frogging", we are also considering the Branford/Fort White route in this docket. These exchanges are all located in the Jacksonville LATA.

By Order No. PSC-93-1347-PCO-TL, issued September 14, 1993, we required ALLTEL and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell or the Company) to conduct traffic studies on these routes. Southern Bell and ALLTEL filed their traffic studies on December 13, 1993.

Southern Bell filed its study along with a request for confidential classification for some of the information contained therein. Its request was granted by Order No. PSC-94-0221-CFO-TL,

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issued February 24, 1994. Accordingly, although we have considered Southern Bell's data, it is not reflected in this Order. ALLTEL's traffic data is depicted below:

INTEREXCHANGE CALLING RATES		
FROM/TO	CALLING RATE (M/A/M'S)	CUSTOMERS MAKING 2+ CALLS PER MONTH
Branford/Lake City	7.40	55.54
Fort White/Branford	1.99	23.50
Branford/Fort White	.77	10.25
Lake City/Branford	Confidential	Confidential

Under Rule 25-4.060(2), Florida Administrative Code, in cases where the petitioning exchange contains less than half the number of access lines as the exchange to which EAS is requested, there must be a calling rate of at least three messages per access line per month (M/A/Ms). This rule further requires that at least 50% of the subscribers in the petitioning exchange make two or more calls per month to the larger exchange to qualify for traditional EAS.

In all recent cases wherein traffic volumes have been sufficient to qualify for a survey for nonoptional, flat rate, two-way EAS, we have required that subscribers be surveyed under the 25/25 plan with regrouping. Under the 25/25 plan with regrouping, subscribers are charged two additives to their standard monthly rates. The 25/25 additive is twenty-five percent of the rate group schedule for the number of access lines to be newly included in the exchange's calling scope. The regrouping additive is the difference in rates between the exchange's original rate group and the new rate group into which the exchange will fall with its expanded calling scope. The 25/25 additive is typically removed after two years or in the Company's next rate case, whichever is later.

Based upon the traffic data above, we find it appropriate to require ALLTEL to survey subscribers in the Branford exchange for nonoptional, flat rate, two-way EAS to the Lake City and Fort White exchanges, under the 25/25 plan with regrouping, at the rates depicted on the following page:

Present Rates	25/25 Additive	Regrouping	Total Additive	New Rate
R-1 \$ 9.60	\$2.40	\$.15	\$ 2.55	\$12.15
B-1 \$ 24.10	6.03	.30	6.33	30.43
PBX \$ 45.85	11.46	.65	12.11	57.96

This survey must be conducted within forty-five days of the date of this Order. ALLTEL shall also submit a newspaper advertisement regarding the survey for review prior to publication, and the survey letter and ballot prior to distribution to its customers. In addition, ALLTEL shall provide a copy of the newspaper advertisement as published, including the run dates.

The 25/25 additive shown above was derived by calculating the additional calling scope for the Branford subscribers. The number of access lines by which the calling scope of the Branford exchange will increase is simply the number of access lines in the Lake City (18,060) and Fort White (1,090) exchanges. The number of access lines was then applied to ALLTEL's rate group schedule to determine the 25/25 additive. With the addition of 19,150 access lines to the current calling scope in the Branford exchange (3,033), the new total would be 22,182 access lines. This will move Branford from rate group 5 to rate group 6.

If the survey passes, the 25/25 additive should stay in place for two years after implementation or until ALLTEL's next earnings review, whichever comes later.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that ALLTEL shall survey its subscribers in the Branford exchange for nonoptional, flat rate, two-way EAS to the Lake City and Fort White exchanges, under the 25/25 plan with regrouping, at the rates depicted in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the survey must be conducted within forty-five days of the date of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that ALLTEL shall submit a proposed newspaper advertisement regarding the survey for review prior to publication. It is further

ORDERED that ALLTEL shall submit a proposed survey letter and ballot prior to distribution to its customers. It is further

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ORDERED that ALLTEL shall provide a copy of the newspaper advertisement as published, including the run dates.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 10th day of March, 1994.

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

RJP

by: Kay Ferguson
Chief, Bureau of Records

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 action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), 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 March 31, 1994.

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In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

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 and effective 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 wastewater 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 effective date of this order, 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.