

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for waiver of ) DOCKET NO. 940141-TL  
Rule 25-4.0175(8)(a), F.A.C., ) ORDER NO. PSC-94-0430-FOF-TL  
which requires the filing of a ) ISSUED: April 11, 1994  
study for each category of )  
depreciable property at certain )  
intervals, by UNITED TELEPHONE )  
COMPANY OF FLORIDA. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

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

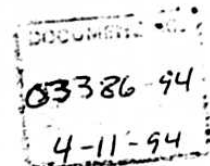
NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST  
OF UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF FLORIDA  
FOR WAIVER OF RULE

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.

Rule 25-4.0175(8)(a), Florida Administrative Code, requires telephone companies to file a comprehensive depreciation study at least once every three years from the submission date of the previous study unless authorized by the Commission. In accordance with this rule, the next depreciation study for United Telephone Company of Florida (United or Company) is due on or before June 27, 1994. However, since the filing of its last depreciation study,



ORDER NO. PSC-94-0430-FOF-TL  
DOCKET NO. 940141-TL  
PAGE 2

United's parent, Sprint Corporation, acquired Central Telephone Company of Florida (Centel). The next depreciation study for Centel is due on or before November 30, 1994.

In conjunction with the consolidation of the operations of United and Centel, United's planning process will include both operating companies as one entity for planning purposes. The completion of this process, however, is not anticipated until late 1994. This will prevent its inclusion in United's depreciation study if it is filed in June 1994. United therefore is requesting a waiver of Rule 25-4.0175(8)(a), Florida Administrative Code, to allow the filing of its study on November 30, 1994 to coincide with the filing date of the Centel study.

Company planning is an essential element in the proper design of depreciation rates. For planning purposes, it is necessary for a company to take into account various external factors such as growth, technology, and competition. Impacts of new technology can be noticed in such areas as "smart phones," central office equipment, and metallic cables. Recognizing that the consolidated company planning for United and Centel will not be completed in time for United's June 1994 filing, we hold that United shall be allowed to submit its study in November 1994 at the same time Centel's study is due. This will permit United to develop remaining lives reflecting its most current plans rather than submitting a study and updating it when the planning process for the consolidated operations is completed.

It is our understanding that United will file a common planning study for United and Centel but separate historical accounting data. Depreciation rates will be proposed for each company based on consolidated company planning and each company's investment and reserve positions. For the next review cycle after November 1994, one study for the merged company will be submitted.

Based on the foregoing, it is


ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the request by United Telephone Company of Florida for waiver of Rule 25-4.0175(8)(a), Florida Administrative Code, is approved, which will delay the filing of its depreciation study until November 30, 1994 as discussed within the text of this Order. It is further

ORDER NO. PSC-94-0430-FOF-TL  
DOCKET NO. 940141-TL  
PAGE 3

ORDERED that this Order shall become final and effective on the date set forth below if no timely protest is filed pursuant to the requirements set forth below. It is further

ORDERED that if no protest is timely filed according to the requirements set forth below, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 11th day of April, 1994.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BLANCA S. BAYO, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

DLC

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 May 2, 1994.

ORDER NO. PSC-94-0430-FOF-TL  
DOCKET NO. 940141-TL  
PAGE 4

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.