

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Tariff filing by GTE FLORIDA,)	DOCKET NO. 880643-TL
INC. to introduce toll optional calling)	ORDER NO. 20835
service)	ISSUED: 3-1-89

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL MCK. WILSON
 BETTY EASLEY
 THOMAS M. BEARD
 JOHN T. HERNDON

ORDER EXTENDING EXPERIMENTAL TARIFF

BY THE COMMISSION:

I. BACKGROUND

On May 4, 1988, GTE Florida, Inc. (GTEFL) filed an experimental tariff proposing to offer an intraLATA toll optional calling service, Suncoast PreferredSM. The tariff was proposed on a market-test basis for customer dialed calls originating in the Clearwater-Countryside, Lakeland-Main, New Port Richey-Main and Tampa-East central office areas terminating within the Tampa LATA. Subscribers to the service, for a fixed monthly rate, receive an additional discount over and above the time-of-day discounts specified in the tariff. The plan has two options: 1) subscribers may pay a monthly rate of \$1.75 per access line and receive a twenty percent discount or 2) pay a monthly rate of \$12.00 per account and receive a discount of ten, twenty or twenty-five percent depending on the total volume of intraLATA calls. Prior to approval of Suncoast Preferred Service (SPS), customer dialed station-to-station intraLATA toll rates were the uniform statewide LEC toll rates which are based upon distance and length of call, with time-of-day discounts. The initial filing was for a six-month period and was scheduled to expire October 31, 1988.

Teltec Saving Communication Company (now Telus Communications, Inc.) appeared at the Agenda Conference at which GTEFL's SPS tariff was considered and requested that the tariff be suspended and set for hearing.

By Order No. 19517, issued on June 20, 1988, the Commission approved GTEFL's SPS tariff and denied Teltec's request for suspension of and a hearing on the tariff. Subsequently, Telus filed a Petition for Reconsideration of Order No. 19517 and Alternative Request for Hearing. GTEFL timely filed their response to Telus' pleading. Telus then filed an Amended Motion for Reconsideration of Order No. 19517; Complaint and Petition to Change Rates of GTE Florida, Inc.; and Request for Hearing. GTEFL then filed their Motion to Strike, Motion to Dismiss and Response to Telus Communications, Inc.'s Amended Pleading. GTEFL requested that the tariff be extended beyond October 31, 1988 until January 31, 1989.

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By Order No. 20325, issued November 17, 1988, this Commission denied Telus's Motion for Reconsideration of Order No. 19517; granted Telus's Motion to Amend its Complaint and Petition; denied GTE Florida Incorporated's Motion to dismiss Telus's amended Complaint; and granted GTEFL ten days to file its answer to Telus's amended complaint. Further, we granted GTEFL's request to extend the SPS experimental tariff until January 31, 1989 and required reports to be filed. GTEFL has now requested that the January 31, 1989 expiration date be extended an additional ninety days until May 1, 1989.

II. EXPERIMENTAL TARIFF EXTENSION

This Commission approved GTEFL's experimental SPS tariff in Order No. 19517, issued on June 20, 1988. The tariff, as filed, was to become effective on June 1, 1988 and expire on October 31, 1988. However, because of Telus' request for reconsideration of the order, GTEFL did not actually implement the service until August 1, 1988. GTEFL requested an extension of the SPS tariff until January 31, 1989 in order to gather data for a total six-month period. We approved This extension by Order No. 20325, issued November 17, 1988. On January 10, 1989, GTEFL filed a request for a further extension until May 1, 1989.

According to the latest information available, GTEFL had a total of 3,175 subscribing to the optional toll plans; 2,490 residential customers and 660 business customers were subscribing to Plan 1 and 25 business customers were subscribing to Plan 2. According to the Company, if the tariff offering is not extended, the discounts will expire and these customers' intraLATA toll rates will increase approximately twelve (12) percent on February 1, 1989.

In addition, the company informs us that it is in the process of finalizing proposed modifications to this offering, based on an analysis of customer acceptance thus far. The final (permanent) tariff will be ready for filing at least sixty days prior to May 1, 1989. The Company asks that the SPS tariff be continued without interruption until May 1, 1989 in order to allow consideration of the final tariff.

Upon consideration, we find it appropriate to grant an extension of the SPS experimental tariff until May 1, 1989. This is an experimental tariff which has only been in operation for approximately one hundred and eighty days. The extension will permit the Company to further evaluate the performance, cost and pricing of the service whereby adjustments can be made to meet subscriber's needs. The extension will also postpone any subscriber disruption pending the review of the final tariff.

GTEFL shall continue filing quarterly reports on the SPS experiment delineating, at a minimum, a breakdown by residence and business subscribers, the number of subscribers under each plan (per line vs per account), the intraLATA revenues these subscribers generated and the discounted amounts in each percentage. This information will facilitate the final Commission evaluation of this experiment.

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This docket shall remain open pending final review of the SPS experiment and the complaint against the SPS tariff filed by Telus.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that GTE Florida, Inc.'s to extend its experimental Suncoast PreferredSM tariff is granted as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that GTEFL shall file reports as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission,
 this 1st day of March, 1989.


 STEVE TRIBBLE, Director
 Division of Records and Reporting

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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.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or sewer 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 after the issuance 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.