

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Fletcher Building
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M E M O R A N D U M

JULY 8, 1993

TO : DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM : DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS [GRISWOLD] *[Handwritten initials]*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES [ADAMS] *[Handwritten initials]*

RE : DOCKET NO. 930519-TL, PROPOSED TARIFF FILING TO OFFER
OPEN 800 SERVICE AND OPTION 800 SERVICE BY ST. JOSEPH
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY FLORIDA. (T-93-277, FILED
5/24/93)

AGENDA: JULY 20, 1993 - CONTROVERSIAL - PARTIES MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: EFFECTIVE DATE JULY 23, 1993

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: I:\PSC\CMU\WP\930519.RCM

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission approve St. Joseph Telephone and Telegraph Company Florida's (St. Joe) offering of Open 800 Service?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, the Commission should approve St. Joe's offering of Open 800 Service.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE:

Open 800 Service enables an 800 customer to have their intraLATA traffic carried by St. Joseph Telephone and Telegraph Company Florida (St. Joe) and their interLATA traffic carried by an interexchange carrier (IXC). Open 800 Service could only be made available with the advent of 800 number portability. St. Joe will purchase 800 Database Service from Southern Bell which, through 10 digit screening, makes portability of 800 numbers possible.

When the customer takes Open 800 Service, he is asked who he prefers to carry his interLATA traffic. If it is an IXC that has agreed to participate in the program, St. Joe contacts that IXC and sets up the provisioning of service. If the preferred IXC is not one that has reached agreement with St. Joe, then the customer must select another IXC or the service

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cannot be provided.

St. Joe currently offers Combined 800 Service, which is similar to Open 800 service. Combined 800 Service was an interim measure activated at divestiture where only ATT-C had 800 number screening capabilities. ATT-C and St. Joe provide combined service whereby ATT-C screens calls and routes intraLATA calls back to St. Joe. Other IXCs have chosen to use the NXX system, transporting both intraLATA and interLATA traffic themselves. Because St. Joe will have access to screening service via SBT's 800 Database Service, Open 800 Service will enable St. Joe to offer combined service with any IXC entering into an agreement with St. Joe. This was not previously possible due to 800 numbers not being portable.

RATES:

The proposed usage rates for Open 800 Service are the same as those currently in place for the intraLATA portion of 800 Service. The per number per access line termination non-recurring charges and monthly charges are those currently approved for Southern Bell. The interLATA rates are those applicable to the customer-selected interexchange carrier.

RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE:

Customers should benefit from potential rate reductions due to increased competition resulting from Open 800 Service. Those IXCs electing to participate in the service should attempt to make their rates as appealing as possible as compared to other IXCs that are also participating. In addition, 800 customers will benefit from the wider choice of 800 services available to them. Finally, smaller IXCs who do not have screening capabilities will benefit from having St. Joe screen and translate the 800 number to a plain old telephone service (POTS) number for them. Therefore, staff recommends the Commission approve St. Joe's request to offer Open 800 Service.

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ISSUE 2: Should the Commission approve St. Joe's offering of Option 800 Service?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, the Commission should approve St. Joe's offering of Option 800 Service.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE:

Option 800 Service is an intraLATA only 800 service. No carrier is involved other than St. Joe. Unlike Open 800 service which is a statewide service, Option 800 service is limited to St. Joe's specific LATA.

RATES:

The proposed usage rates for Option 800 Service are the same as those currently in place for the intraLATA portion of 800 Service and those proposed for Open 800 Service. This is the case for both recurring and non-recurring charges. The per number-per access line non-recurring charge and monthly charge for termination are the same as those currently approved for Southern Bell.

RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE:

Customers should benefit from potential rate reductions due to increased competition resulting from Option 800 Service. Those IXCs offering intraLATA service in St. Joe's territory should attempt to make their rates as appealing as possible in comparison to other IXCs and St. Joe. In addition, 800 customers will benefit from the increased choice of options available to them. Finally, those customers interested in 800 service originating and terminating from a single LATA will benefit from the availability of Option 800 Service.

ISSUE 3: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, with the adoption of staff's recommendations in Issues 1 and 2, this docket should be closed.

STAFF ANALYSIS: If the Commission approves the recommendation in Issues 1 and 2, this tariff should become effective July 23, 1993. If a timely protest is filed, this tariff should remain in effect with any revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. If no timely protest is filed, this docket should be closed.