

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Investigation of tariff) DOCKET NO. 960743-TL
filing to determine whether GTE) ORDER NO. PSC-96-1535-FOF-TL
Florida Incorporated's Trouble) ISSUED: December 17, 1996
Location Charge for Single-Line)
Customers is in compliance with)
Section 364.051, F.S. (T-96-480)
filed 6/6/96))
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
JOE GARCIA
JULIA L. JOHNSON
DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

The recent changes in Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, allow local exchange companies (LECs) to elect price regulation effective January 1, 1996. With election of price regulation, the LEC is subject to some guidelines, one of which pertains to the pricing of non-basic services.

Section 364.051(6) (a), Florida Statutes, provides in pertinent part:

Each company subject to this section shall maintain tariffs with the commission containing the terms, conditions and rates for each of its non-basic services, ..., the rate for each of its non-basic services, except that a price increase for any non-basic service category shall not exceed six percent within a twelve-month period until there is another provider providing local telecommunications service in an exchange area at which time the price for any non-basic service category may be increased in an amount not to exceed twenty percent within a twelve-month period, and the rate shall be presumptively valid.

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Effective January 3, 1996, GTE Florida Incorporated (GTEFL or the Company) became a price-regulated local exchange company and, therefore, became subject to Section 364.051, Florida Statutes.

On June 6, 1996, GTEFL filed a tariff with this Commission introducing a Single-Line Trouble Location charge (SLTLC) in Section A15 of its General Services Tariff. This nonrecurring charge is applicable to single line subscribers when a repair call results in trouble being isolated to the subscriber's side of the demarcation point. Prior to this filing, GTEFL tariffed trouble location service only for multi-line subscribers. The company states that with this filing, it now will be able to charge its single-line customers for trouble location service.

GTEFL asserts this tariff is for a new service and is not a price increase as contemplated by Section 364.051, Florida Statutes, and Order No. PSC-96-0012-FOF-TL, Investigation to Determine Categories of Non-basic Services Provided by Local Exchange Telephone Companies. Specifically, GTEFL argues SLTLC is a new service offering in the Miscellaneous Services Category. According to the company, since the SLTLC is a new service, the associated revenues should be excluded in calculating the 6% allowable price increase.

Upon the request of Commission staff, GTEFL performed a price-out for the Miscellaneous Service Category. The price-out revealed that the impact of the SLTLC to be approximately 3.15%. On September 18, 1996, GTEFL filed a monitoring report with a revised price-out which showed that the impact of the revenue resulting from the SLTLC was approximately 5.85%.

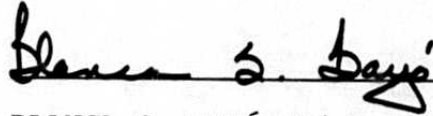
Upon consideration, we find that whether or not GTEFL's SLTLC tariff is viewed as a new service or as a price increase, the 5.85% increase falls within the 6% price increase for a non-basic service category allowed by Section 364.051(6)(a), Florida Statutes. Accordingly, this concludes our investigation and this docket can be closed.

Therefore, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that this docket is hereby closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 17th
day of December, 1996.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blanca S. Bayó", is written over a horizontal line.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

MMB

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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, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, 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 and/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 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.