

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

VOTE SHEET

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

RE: Docket No. 040604-TL - Adoption of the National School Lunch Program and an income-based criterion at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines as eligibility criteria for the Lifeline and Link-Up programs.

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve the BellSouth, Verizon, and Sprint proposed settlement agreements?

Recommendation: Yes. The Commission should approve the BellSouth, Verizon, and Sprint proposed settlement agreements. BellSouth, Verizon, and Sprint should file tariffs reflecting the Commission decision within 15 days of the issuance of a Commission Order, with the tariffs becoming effective 30 days from the filing of the tariffs, and remain in effect through the evaluation period after one year. The instant docket should be held in abeyance for a period of at least one year from the effective date of the tariffs. A review of the simplified certification process should be held after six months from the effective date of the tariffs, or earlier if necessary. At the review, or when the Florida Supreme Court rules on consolidated Case Nos. SC04-9, SC-04-10, and SC04-946 (the access rate reform cases), whichever is earlier, the parties will revisit the issue of adding the National School Lunch Program and an income-based criterion of 135% of the Federal poverty level as additional eligibility criteria. BellSouth, Verizon, and Sprint should commit to working with staff and OPC to include a school outreach effort in the Lifeline education program. BellSouth, Verizon, and Sprint should notify staff of any modifications to the simplified certification process 60 days prior to any modifications, unless extraordinary circumstances warrant less notification, and will notify staff 90 days prior to any cancellation of the simplified certification process.

**MODIFIED**

*Approved with Staff's modification to language on page 4 of recommendation, and with further modification that Bell South, Verizon, and Sprint will notify*

*OPC when they notify staff of any modifications to simplified certification process.*

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

*[Handwritten signatures of majority commissioners]*

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REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

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Issue 2: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. If the Commission approves Issue 1, this docket should be kept open to monitor the Lifeline simplified certification process trial period. If the Commission does not approve Issue 1, a hearing tract should be reinstated with hearing dates of February 21-22, 2005.

**APPROVED**