

State of Florida



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Public Service Commission

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

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CLERK

DATE: March 24, 2006
TO: Blanca S. Bayó, Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Director
FROM: Beth W. Salak, Director, Division of Competitive Markets & Enforcement
RE: Docket No. 060077-TL

Please place the attached correspondence in the above-referenced docket file.

Thank you.

BWS/sh
attachments

- CMP _____
- COM _____
- CTR _____
- ECR _____
- GCL _____
- OPC _____
- RCA _____
- SCR _____
- SGA _____
- SEC 1
- OTH _____

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COMMISSIONERS:
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J. TERRY DEASON
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KATRINA J. TEW

STATE OF FLORIDA



DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS &
ENFORCEMENT
BETH W. SALAK
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6600

Public Service Commission

March 14, 2006

Ms. Nancy Sims
Director, Regulatory Relations
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
150 S Monroe St., Ste. 400
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Re: Docket No. 060077-TL, Proposal to Require Local Exchange Companies to Implement Ten-Year Wood Pole Inspection Program.

Dear Ms. Sims:

At the informal pole inspection meeting held on February 21, 2006, I committed that I would inform you how staff would proceed in this docket. Staff has met several times to consider the merits of your proposals and comments. I agree wholeheartedly that the inspections should be prioritized to evaluate poles with attachments, relatively older poles, and poles in coastal regions first. I understand your argument that poles thirty-five feet or shorter should be excluded from the inspection requirement; however, I cannot recommend to the commissioners that they revise their position as reflected in Order No. PSC-06-0168-PAA-TL without data and documentation on how poles under 35 feet were impacted during the hurricanes, whether these poles have a lesser incident of breakage than the taller poles, and other data that would indicate the safety of the poles.

Under the Commission's order and from the discussion at Agenda, staff can be flexible with the plans submitted by the companies. The order requires a pole inspection plan from each company to be filed by April 1, 2006; however, there is latitude that provides for phasing in implementation of the plans. This would allow time for you to negotiate contracts and agreements. The filed plan can then be updated, as necessary, to reflect new contracts, joint-pole user agreements, workload considerations, etc.

If you would like to discuss this further or provide additional information, please let me know. If you have any questions, please call me at (850) 413-6408.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth W. Salak".

Beth W. Salak

Director, Competitive Markets & Enforcement

BWS:sh

COMMISSIONERS:
LISA POLAK EDGAR, CHAIRMAN
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STATE OF FLORIDA



DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS &
ENFORCEMENT
BETH W. SALAK
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(850) 413-6600

Public Service Commission

March 14, 2006

Mr. Charles Rehwinkel
State Vice-President
Sprint-Florida, Inc.
315 South Calhoun St., Ste. 500
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Re: Docket No. 060077-TL, Proposal to Require Local Exchange Companies to Implement Ten-Year Wood Pole Inspection Program.

Dear Mr. Rehwinkel:

At the informal pole inspection meeting held on February 21, 2006, I committed that I would inform you how staff would proceed in this docket. Staff has met several times to consider the merits of your proposals and comments. I agree wholeheartedly that the inspections should be prioritized to evaluate poles with attachments, relatively older poles, and poles in coastal regions first. I understand your argument that poles thirty-five feet or shorter should be excluded from the inspection requirement; however, I cannot recommend to the commissioners that they revise their position as reflected in Order No. PSC-06-0168-PAA-TL without data and documentation on how poles under 35 feet were impacted during the hurricanes, whether these poles have a lesser incident of breakage than the taller poles, and other data that would indicate the safety of the poles.

Under the Commission's order and from the discussion at Agenda, staff can be flexible with the plans submitted by the companies. The order requires a pole inspection plan from each company to be filed by April 1, 2006; however, there is latitude that provides for phasing in implementation of the plans. This would allow time for you to negotiate contracts and agreements. The filed plan can then be updated, as necessary, to reflect new contracts, joint-pole user agreements, workload considerations, etc.

If you would like to discuss this further or provide additional information, please let me know. If you have any questions, please call me at (850) 413-6408.

Sincerely,

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Beth W. Salak
Director, Competitive Markets & Enforcement

BWS:sh

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Public Service Commission

March 14, 2006

Mr. David Christian
Verizon Florida, Inc.
106 E. College Ave, Suite 810
Tallahassee, FL 32301-7740

Re: Docket No. 060077-TL, Proposal to Require Local Exchange Companies to Implement Ten-Year Wood Pole Inspection Program.

Dear Mr. Christian:

At the informal pole inspection meeting held on February 21, 2006, I committed that I would inform you how staff would proceed in this docket. Staff has met several times to consider the merits of your proposals and comments. I agree wholeheartedly that the inspections should be prioritized to first evaluate poles with attachments, relatively older poles, and poles in coastal regions as discussed by BellSouth and Sprint. I do not consider your proposal of "Business as Usual" to be an adequate alternative to Order No. PSC-06-0168-PAA-TL. As such, we will not be taking your proposal to Agenda. However, we heard your concerns about the "Sound and Bore" method of inspection. Staff is interested in hearing about any functionally equivalent method of inspection that you would like to have considered.

Under the Commission's order and from the discussion at Agenda, staff can be flexible with the plans submitted by the companies. The order requires a pole inspection plan from each company to be filed by April 1, 2006; however, there is latitude that provides for phasing in implementation of the plans. This would allow time for you to negotiate contracts and agreements. The filed plan can then be updated, as necessary, to reflect new contracts, joint-pole user agreements, workload considerations, etc.

If you would like to discuss this further or provide additional information, please let me know. If you have any questions, please call me at (850) 413-6408.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth W. Salak".

Beth W. Salak
Director, Competitive Markets &
Enforcement

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