

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for approval of) DOCKET NO. 930519-TL
tariff filing to introduce Open) ORDER NO. PSC-93-1169-FOF-TL
800 Service by ST. JOSEPH) ISSUED: August 10, 1993
TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH COMPANY.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
THOMAS M. BEARD
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
LUIS J. LAUREDO

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 24, 1993, St. Joseph Telephone and Telegraph Company (St. Joe or the Company) filed a tariff amendment to introduce Open 800 Service and Option 800 Service. Open 800 Service enables an 800 customer to have their intraLATA traffic carried by 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 BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (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 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 Southern Bell's 800 Database Service, Open 800 Service will enable St. Joe to offer

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combined service with any IXC entering into an agreement with St. Joe. This was not previously possible due to 800 numbers not being portable.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Based on the foregoing, it is

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ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that St. Joseph Telephone and Telegraph Company's tariff amendment to introduce Open 800 Service and Option 800 Service is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below, the tariff shall remain in effect with any increase in revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 10th day of August, 1993.



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.

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The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at his office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on August 31, 1993.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this Order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water 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 of the date this Order becomes final, 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.