

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Proposed tariff filing to add new custom calling services and to increase rates for other specified custom calling services by Quincy Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom/Quincy Telephone. (T-00-1304 filed 9/25/00)

DOCKET NO. 001622-TL
ORDER NO. PSC-00-2372-TRF-TL
ISSUED: December 11, 2000

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

On October 20, 2000, Quincy Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom/Quincy Telephone ("TDS" or "the company") filed a tariff to add New Custom Calling Services and to increase Rates for already tariffed services. The new services include 6-Way Calling Residence, Call Transfer, Warm Line, Do-Not-Disturb and Call Reminder. TDS, a small local exchange telecommunications company, is still rate base, rate of return regulated. The company has submitted a letter waiving the 30-day effective date of this tariff filing.

We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter through the provisions of Sections 364.04, 364.05 and 364.052, Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Section 364.052, Florida Statutes, Rule 25-4.214, Florida Administrative Code, Tariff Filings, was adopted which states that:

Tariff filings for new services and changes to an existing service that are submitted by small local exchange companies subject to the

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Commission's rate base and rate of return regulation shall go into effect on the 30 day following the day of filing unless: (1) The company requests a later effective date; or (2) The Commission suspends or denies the filing prior to the 30th day.

6-Way Calling Residence allows a customer to call up to five parties and establish a six-way call. To activate this service, the customer dials an access code, dials the desired telephone number (calling party must answer), depresses the switchhook to add the calling party to the line, then depresses the switchhook again to receive a new dial tone. If the party line is busy or there is no answer, the customer must dial a special access code to drop the line. This process needs to be repeated until all parties (up to five) have been connected to the customer's line. All 6-Way Calls are subject to transmission limitations and all applicable local and long distance charges. The monthly rate for this service is \$3.50. There is no revenue impact because currently there are no customers using this feature.

Call Transfer allows the customer to hold and transfer incoming, out-going and intra-group calls. If the customer has established a three way call, this service will allow the customer to hang up while the other two parties remain connected. Any applicable long distance charges will apply for the duration of the call, even if the initiator of the call hangs up. The monthly rate for this service is \$2.00.

Warm Line allows a call to be automatically placed to a pre-assigned number determined by the customer. The call will be placed once the customer's phone has been off-hook for a predetermined time-out period. The time-out period may be set 1 to 14 seconds. During the time-out period the customer will receive a normal dial tone and can originate calls. Once the time-out period has expired, a call is automatically placed to the pre-assigned number as programmed by the Company. The monthly rate for this service is \$2.00.

Do-Not-Disturb prevents incoming calls from ringing at the customer's premises. Callers will reach a recording which states that the number they have dialed is not accepting calls at this

ORDER NO. PSC-00-2372-TRF-TL
DOCKET NO. 001622-TL
PAGE 3

time and to try again later. A personal identification number (PIN) is available to allow selected callers the ability to override this service in order to reach the customer. The monthly rate for this service is \$2.00.

Call Reminder allows a customer to program a time at which a reminder call is desired. At the programmed time, the customer will receive a call placed by the Central Office Equipment. When the call is answered, the customer will hear a tone or a Company recorded announcement. The monthly rate for this service is \$2.00.

Call Forward-Remote Access (Additive to Call Forwarding) was approved in a previous tariff for business customers, but is now being offered to residential customers.

Three-Way Calling was approved in a previous tariff filing and will now incur an activation rate increase to \$.75 with a monthly cap increase to \$6.00.

Pay-Per-Use Services are comprised of two features: Call Return and Repeat Dialing. They were both approved in a previous tariff filing and will incur a Per-Use Charge increase to \$.75, with a monthly cap increase to \$8.25. These features are free to a customer after the first 11 calls.

We have reviewed the revenue impact data provided by T.D.S. The company estimated that the additional revenue generated by these tariff changes will be \$142,605. The company reported an achieved Return On Equity (ROE) of 5.72% on its December 31, 1999 Earnings Surveillance Report (ESR). Based on the December 31, 1999 ESR, an increase of \$107,193 in revenue equates to a 1% increase in ROE. This additional revenue would increase the company ROE by approximately 1.33% to 7.05%.

We find that these services will enhance the previously approved services and provide T.D.S. customers with additional "user-friendly" features. Accordingly, T.D.S.' tariff filing to add new Custom Calling Services and increase rates for other specified Custom Calling Services are hereby approved, effective November 28, 2000.

Based on the foregoing, it is

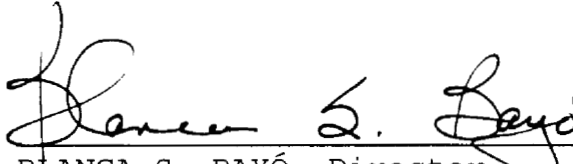
ORDER NO. PSC-00-2372-TRF-TL
DOCKET NO. 001622-TL
PAGE 4

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the tariff filed by Quincy Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom/Quincy Telephone to add the following New Custom Calling Services, 6-Way Calling Residence, Call Transfer, Warm Line, Do-Not-Disturb and Call Reminder, and to increase rates for the following previously tariffed services, Call Forward-Remote Access (Additive to Call Forwarding), Three-Way Calling, and Pay-Per-Use Services, set forth in the body of this Order, is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below in the Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review, the tariff shall remain in effect pending resolution of the protest, with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

Order that if no protest is filed in accordance with requirements set forth below in the Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 11th day of December, 2000.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), 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

ORDER NO. PSC-00-2372-TRF-TL
DOCKET NO. 001622-TL
PAGE 5

should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

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 proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on January 1, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

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.