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## Southern Bell

Mary Jo Peed Attorney Legal Department 4300 Southern Bell Center Atlanta, Georgia 30375 404 529-7208

May 31, 1991



Steve Tribble
Director, Division of Records & Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
101 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: FPSC Docket No. 910060-TP

Dear Mr. Tribble:

Enclosed are an original and fifteen copies of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company's Comments and Suggestions to the Proposed Amendment of Rule No. 25-4.110,F.A.C., as Published in the May 10, 1991 Edition of the Florida Administrative Weekly in the above-referenced docket. Service is being provided to all parties of record in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please indicate on the copy that the original was filed and return the copy to me.

ACK	<b>\</b>
AFA	
APP	
C	
C	Enclosure
E	cc: All Parties of Record A. M. Lombardo
LE :	H. R. Anthony R. D. Lackey
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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FILE COPY

Re:	Amenda	ent	of	Rule	25-4.110, F.A.C,
perta	ining	to	cust	comer	billing.

Docket No. 910060-TP

Filed: May 31, 1991

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF RULE 25-4.110, F.A.C., AS PUBLISHED IN THE MAY 10, 1991 EDITION OF THE FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE WEEKLY

COMES NOW, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company
("Southern Bell"), pursuant to the Notice of Rulemaking published
in the May 10, 1991 edition of the Florida Administrative Weekly,
and offers the following comments and suggestions to said
proposed rule:

1. Proposed Section 25-4.110(1)(a) states that "[c]harges for 900 or 976 calls shall be segregated from charges for regular long distance or local charges by appearing separately under a heading that reads as follows: '900 or 976 non-regulated charges.'" Southern Bell currently provides billing for 976 service providers via Section A13.18.1 of Southern Bell's General Subscriber's Services Tariff (GSST). 976 Service is offered by Southern Bell to information providers through a direct tariff relationship with the information provider. Southern Bell already segregates 976 charges from charges for regular long distance or local charges under a heading "976 Service Calls Billed For Sponsor(s)." (See Attachment "A") Therefore, with respect to 976 Service, Southern Bell's current practice complies with the spirit of the segregation requirement contained in the

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proposed rule. 976 Service is a direct Southern Bell offering to information providers and 976 charges are billed on Southern Bell's portion of an end users' telephone bill. Accordingly, Southern Bell suggests that the heading required under the proposed rule for 976 Service be on the Southern Bell services portion of the bill and read as follows: "976 nonregulated charges."

- 2. With respect to the segregation of 900 charges,
  Southern Bell suggests segregating 900 charges on each individual
  carrier's bill page contained within an end user's bill under a
  heading of "900 nonregulated charges rather than creating a
  separate page for each individual carrier's 900 charges.
  Segregation of these 900 charges in a manner similar to what is
  already done for 976 charges will accomplish the disclosure
  intent of the proposed rule while not unnecessarily adding
  additional length to the end user's bill.
- 3. Proposed Section 25-4.110(a)(1) and (2) require that clear and conspicuous messages concerning 900 and 976 services appear on each page containing 900 or 976 charges. These messages would state that the nonpayment of 900 and 976 service charges will not result in the discontinuance of service and that customers can obtain blocking of 900 or 976 services from the local exchange company. Southern Bell is not opposed to informational messages concerning 900 and 976 services being included on the bill. However, Southern Bell does not favor the proposed informational statements appearing on every page. The

requirement of this information on every page would add length and thus additional cost to the bill. Southern Bell estimates that the additional billing cost would be a total nonrecurring cost of \$31,624.98 and a total yearly recurring of \$238,030.09. Furthermore, emphasis on the statement "nonpayment of 900 or 976 service charges will not result in disconnection of local service" could unintentionally encourage customers to use services for which they do not intend to pay.

- 4. Southern Bell suggests that the proposed disclosure regarding 900 and 976 charges be included on the summary page of the bill. The summary page of the bill is the page which is most closely examined by end users as this is the page from which they pay their telephone bills and receive information regarding the local or toll free telephone numbers to call in case of inquiries regarding charges which appear on the telephone bill.
- 5. Southern Bell could also provide periodic information regarding unregulated services, charges, responsibilities, blocking, no disconnection policy, etc., in the Southern Bell Tel News, which is the customer information mailing included in the monthly telephone bill. Additionally, Southern Bell could include information about 900 and 976 service through the customer guide in the White Pages Directory.

## Respectfully submitted this 31st of May, 1991.

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 910060-TP

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by United States Mail this 3/25 day of 1991, to:

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ATTACHMENT "A"