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REPLY TO Tallahassee

May 31, 1991

Mr. Steve Tribble, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
101 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

ORIGINAL
FILE COPY

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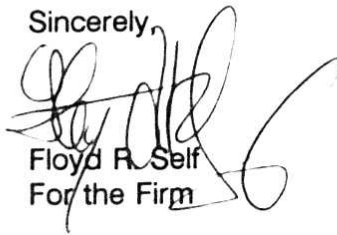
Re: FPSC Docket 910060-TP

Dear Mr. Tribble:

Enclosed for filing are an original and fifteen copies of Sprint Gateways' Comments and Request for Hearing. Please date stamp the extra copy of this letter enclosed to indicate this filing and return the copy to me.

Thank you for your assistance in the processing of this filing, and please call if there are any questions or further requirements.

Sincerely,


Floyd R. Self
For the Firm

ACK _____

AFA _____

APP Lapm

CAF _____

CMU _____

FRS:sb

CTR _____

EAG _____ Enclosures

LEG _____

LIN 6 cc: Craig Dingwall, Esq.

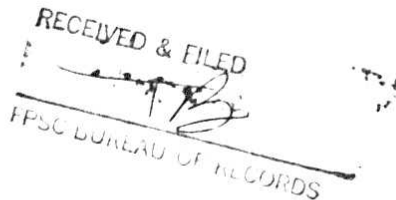
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DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE

05507 MAY 31 1991

RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In re: Amendment of Rule 4.110,))
F.A.C., Pertaining to Customer)
Billing)
_____)

Docket No. 910060-TP

Filed: May 31, 1991

SPRINT GATEWAYS' COMMENTS AND REQUEST FOR HEARING

US Telecom, Inc., d/b/a Sprint Gateways ("Gateways"), pursuant to Order No. 24477, issued May 6, 1991 and Florida Statutes sections 120.54 and 120.57, respectfully submits the following comments and request for hearing in response to the Florida Public Service Commission's ("Commission's") Notice of Rulemaking ("Notice") dated May 6, 1991 in the above-captioned matter.

1. The complete name and address of the Petitioner is:

US Telecom, Inc., d/b/a Sprint Gateways
c/o Craig Dingwall, Esq.
2002 Edmund Halley Drive
Reston, VA 22091

2. All notices, pleadings, orders, and other materials in this docket should be directed to the following, on behalf of the Petitioner:

US Telecom, Inc.,
d/b/a Sprint Gateways
c/o Craig Dingwall, Esq.
2002 Edmund Halley Drive
Reston, VA 22091

Floyd R. Self, Esq.
Messer, Vickers, Caparello,
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Tallahassee, FL 32302

DOCUMENT NUMBER- DATE

05507 MAY 31 1991

FILED RECORDS/REPORTING

I. Introduction

3. The Notice includes proposed rules which, if implemented, would require that charges for 900/976 calls be listed on telephone bills separately from long distance or local charges, and that they be identified as "900 or 976 nonregulated charges." The proposed rules also require notice to customers on their telephone bills that service will not be discontinued because of nonpayment of 900/976 service charges.

4. While Gateways understands the Commission's interest in providing notice to customers of the Commission's current policies with respect to 900/976 calls, the proposed rules require significant software modification by local exchange companies ("LECs") and interexchange carriers ("IXCs") in order to provide the desired customer notice.

5. From the customer's perspective, the proposed 900/976 segregation requirement could cause confusion and further complicate an already complex billing process. In addition, the proposed requirement that nonpayment of 900 or 976 service charges will not result in discontinuance of service will invite 900/976 customers to not pay their legitimate bills leading to further complications in the billing process. Referencing all services to which local service disconnect does not apply would provide customers with a more complete and accurate description of the Commission's billing policies without singling out any particular services.

6. A hearing would afford a more complete record to address customers', carriers', other parties' and the Commission's interests in this matter. Pursuant to the

Notice, Gateways respectfully requests a hearing in this docket at the time and place specified in the Notice.

II. Discussion

A. Charges for 900/976 Calls Should Not Be Segregated From Other Charges On the Bill

7. Proposed Rule 25-4.110(1)(a) would require 900/976 charges to be segregated from charges for regular long distance service or local charges by appearing under a separate heading. There is no rational basis for segregating 900/976 charges from other charges. Current regulations require the clear identification of 900/976 charges on customer bills. See e.g., Order No. 24456, January 24, 1990. There has been no showing that segregating 900/976 charges will provide any new or additional benefits to consumers, or that the procedure can be implemented by LECs in the near future absent significant costs which would no doubt be passed on to LEC billing and collection ("B&C") customers (i.e., IXCs), and ultimately to the consumer. Indeed, this requirement could complicate bills and thereby result in customer confusion. Gateways opposes the proposed segregation of charges for 900/976 and other non-regulated services from all other telecommunications services charges. Clearly more information is necessary to properly evaluate the costs and benefits of this proposed rule. A hearing would provide a more complete record with which to analyze this important issue.

B. The Proposed Customer Notice That Nonpayment of 900/976 Service Charges Will Not Result In Discontinuance of Service Should Apply To All Non-Regulated Services

8. Proposed Rule 25-4.110(1)(a)1, if adopted, would require each page of the bill containing 900 or 976 service charges to include a statement that nonpayment of 900 or 976 service charges will not result in discontinuance of service. Aside from billing cost and implementation issues associated with this proposed rule, the proposed requirement would invite customers to not pay legitimate 900/976 charges. Disconnect of local service for nonpayment of charges adds considerable value to LEC B&C services. Removing the local disconnect threat could diminish the value of the LEC B&C services by threatening the ability to collect for legitimate 900/976 charges. Referencing all services to which local service disconnect does not apply (by asterisk, highlighting, or other means), together with a corresponding notice or bill insert with the required notice, would provide a more complete and accurate description of the Commission's billing policies without singling out any particular services. Again, a hearing would provide a more complete record with which to analyze the various options, costs, and implementation considerations.

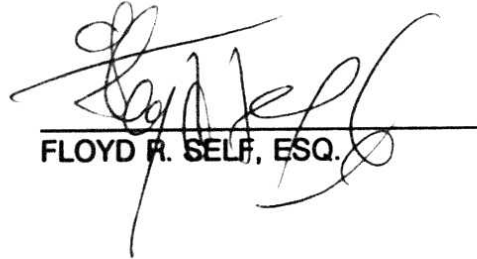
Conclusion

9. For the foregoing reasons, Gateways respectfully requests a hearing to address proposed Rule 25-4.110. If Gateways' request for a hearing is granted, Gateways' respectfully reserves the right to address the above issues as well as any other issues which arise from the proposed rules or are posed by other parties.

Respectfully submitted this 31st day of May, 1991.

Craig Dingwall, Esq.
US Telecom, Inc., d/b/a
Sprint Gateways
2002 Edmund Halley Drive
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FLOYD R. SELF, ESQ.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of Sprint Gateways' Comments and Request for Hearing in Docket No. 910060-TP has been served by U.S. Mail and/or Hand Delivery (*) on May 31, 1991 to the following parties of record:

Tracy Hatch, Esq.*
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Nycom Information Services
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Stanford, CT 06905

D. Bruce May, Esq.
Holland & Knight
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Tallahassee, FL 32302

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d/b/a Sprint Gateways
2002 Edmund Halley Drive
Reston, VA 22091
Mailstop: VARESC106H

Albert J. Angel, Esq.
3500 Magellan Circle #717
Aventura, FL 33180

BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert J. Angel', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

DATE: 6/13/41
TO: Appeals

The attached is sent to you for:

- Your Information
- Further Handling
- Necessary action
- Advice on Handling
- Response

Remarks: 5998-91

Division of Records & Reporting TB

PSC/R&R 9 (3/87)