

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Fletcher Building
101 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

M E M O R A N D U M

August 29, 1991

TO : DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM : DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS [SHELPER] *AAH*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES [MURPHY] *cm H*

RE : DOCKET NO. 910887-TL - PROPOSED TARIFF FILING BY GULF
TELEPHONE TO ESTABLISH LOCAL OPERATOR SERVICE CHARGES
(T-91-368, FILED AUGUST 2, 1991)

AGENDA: SEPTEMBER 10, 1991 - CONTROVERSIAL - PARTIES MAY
PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: COMPANY REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE OF
SEPTEMBER 10, 1991

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should Gulf's proposed tariff to establish local operator service charges be approved effective September 10, 1991?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, Gulf Telephone's proposed tariff to establish local operator service charges should be approved effective September 10, 1991. The Company has agreed to provide an information page with the October bills to notify customers of the change.

STAFF ANALYSIS: On August 2, 1991, Gulf Telephone filed a tariff to establish local operator service charges. According to Mr. Bill Thomas of the Company, the Taylor County Jail has changed its payphones from one LEC payphone, which permitted \$.25 local calls, to nine PATS payphones, which allow collect-only local calls. In addition, the jail has been enlarged to house three times its original capacity. As a result, there has been an increase in operator assisted local calls. The Company estimates that collect calls have increased approximately 20 to 30% since the prison's enlargement and changeover from LEC to PATS payphones.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08687 AUG 29 1991

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Docket No. 910887-TL
August 29, 1991

Currently, Gulf Telephone does not charge the customer for operator assisted local calls. Central Telephone Company (Centel) handles all operator calls for the company and charges Gulf \$.5562 per operator call, \$.0093 for message processing, and .0078 for recording (total \$.5733).

The Commission has approved local operator service charges for other companies, such as General, Southern Bell, Centel and United. Gulf Telephone's proposed rate of \$1.00 for operator assisted local calls are consistent with the rates charged by General, Southern Bell, Centel and United. Alltel does not charge for operator assisted local calls. (The chart below details rates).

	<u>GTE</u>	<u>SBT</u>	<u>Centel</u>	<u>United</u>	<u>ALLTEL</u>
Customer Dialed Credit Card	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$.00
Operator Assisted	\$.75	\$.75	\$.75	\$.75	\$.00
Person to Person	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$.00

Gulf has requested an expedited approval date of September 10, 1991, to assist in covering the costs of providing the operator services. The Company could not provide exact annual revenue impact since the enlargement of the prison and the change to PATS has only been in operation for a month. The information the company provided was based on one month's traffic study and indicated 15 operator assisted local calls were completed.

The Company states that the proposed operator charges will help to place some of the cost for operator services on the cost causers. As stated above, the Company currently recovers no money for operator assisted local calls.

Gulf Telephone has agreed to provide an information page with its October bills outlining the addition of operator charges for operator assisted local calls.

Since the proposed rates for operator assisted calls are consistent with the majority of the LECs, staff recommends that

Docket No. 910887-TL
August 29, 1991

the proposed tariff to establish operator service charges should be approved with the requested expedited effective date of September 10, 1991. In addition, the company has agreed to provide an information page with the October bill to notify the customers of the change.

ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, if Issue 1 is approved this tariff should become effective on September 10, 1991. If a timely protest is filed this tariff should remain in effect with any increase held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. If no timely protest is filed, as set forth below, this docket should be closed.

STAFF ANALYSIS: At this conclusion of the protest period, if no protest has been filed, this docket should be closed.

910887.AHS