

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request by Highlands ) DOCKET NO. 920150-TL  
County Board of Commissioners ) ORDER NO. PSC-93-0899-FOF-TL  
for extended area service ) ISSUED: June 14, 1993  
between all Highlands County )  
exchanges. )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION  
ORDER REQUIRING SURVEY AND TOLL ALTERNATIVES

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are adversely affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

On February 12, 1992, the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners (the County Commission) filed a request for Extended Area Service (EAS) between all exchanges in Highlands County. These exchanges are Avon Park, Sebring, Spring Lake, Lake Placid and Okeechobee. All of these exchanges are served by United Telephone of Florida (United or the Company) and are located in the Fort Myers Market Area. Attachment A reflects the pertinent exchange data and Attachment B is a map of relevant areas.

In response to the County Commissioners request, we issued Order No. PSC-92-0470-PSC-TL, dated June 8, 1992, requiring the Company to conduct traffic studies on the routes described above. Because of clerical errors the Company never received that Order. Accordingly, we reordered the relevant traffic studies in Order No. PSC-92-1031-PCO-TL, dated September 21, 1992, United filed its completed traffic studies. Based upon these studies we make the following findings.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Rule 25-4.059, Florida Administrative Code, provides that if a determination has been made for EAS or other toll alternative arrangements for a specified route then that route shall not be eligible for review more frequently than once in a three year period. In Order No. 24595 issued May 31, 1991, we determined that the Avon Park/Sebring and the Spring Lakes/Lake Placid routes were eligible for \$.25 message rate and Ordered that the \$.25 plan be implemented on August 24, 1991. Accordingly these routes are ineligible for review at this time. However the County Commissioners request implicitly requires a waiver of Rule 25-4.059. Based on the information before us. We shall wait till later in this process to make such a determination.

We also find that the Lake Placid to Sebring qualifies to be surveyed for non-optional, flat rate, two way route toll free calling. The rates for this plan would as follows:

R-1	\$9.03	B-1	\$21.20	PBX	\$42.39
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The survey shall be conducted within 45 days of the date this Order becomes final. United shall obtain Staff's approval the required newspaper advertisement prior to publication. Further, United shall submit the survey letter and ballot to staff for approval prior to publication. Finally, the Company shall provide staff with a copy of the published advertisements and the dates which it runs.

If the survey passes, Optional Extended Area Service between Lake Placid and Sebring and Toll-Pac between Sebring and Lake Placid shall be discontinued simultaneously with the implementation of EAS. Finally, if the survey passes, the 25/25 additive shall remain in place for two years after the implementation of EAS or until the implementation of United's next earnings review, whichever comes later.

We further find that the Spring Lake/Avon Park and Lake Placid/Avon Park routes shall be charged \$.25 per residential call regardless of duration. If technically feasible, business rates on these calls shall be rated at \$.10 for the first minute and \$.06 for each additional minute. These routes shall be furnished on a seven digit local basis. NonLEC pay telephone service providers (NPATS) shall charge end users as if these calls were local \$.25 calls and the NPATS shall pay the standard measured usage rates to the LEC. United shall implement this change within six (6) months of the date this Order becomes final. Finally United shall conduct

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a traffic study of the Highlands County pocket of the Okeechobee exchange to the Spring Lake, Lake Placid, Sebring and Avon Park exchanges. This survey shall be conducted within 45 days of the date of this Order.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that United Telephone Company of Florida shall survey rate payers in the Lake Placid to Sebring exchange as directed in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that rates for calls between Avon Park and Spring Lake and between Avon Park and Lake Placid shall be restructured as described in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the rates for calls between Avon Park and Spring Lake and between Avon Park and Lake Placid shall be restructured within 6 months of the date of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that United Telephone Company of Florida shall conduct traffic studies on the Highlands County portion of the Okeechobee exchange. It is further

ORDERED that any protest of this Order shall be filed pursuant to the requirements set forth below. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 14th day of June, 1993.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVE TRIBBLE, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

JKA

Chairman Deason Dissented with regard to restructuring the rates between Avon Park and Spring Lake and between Avon Park and Lake Placid

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.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), 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 July 6, 1993.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

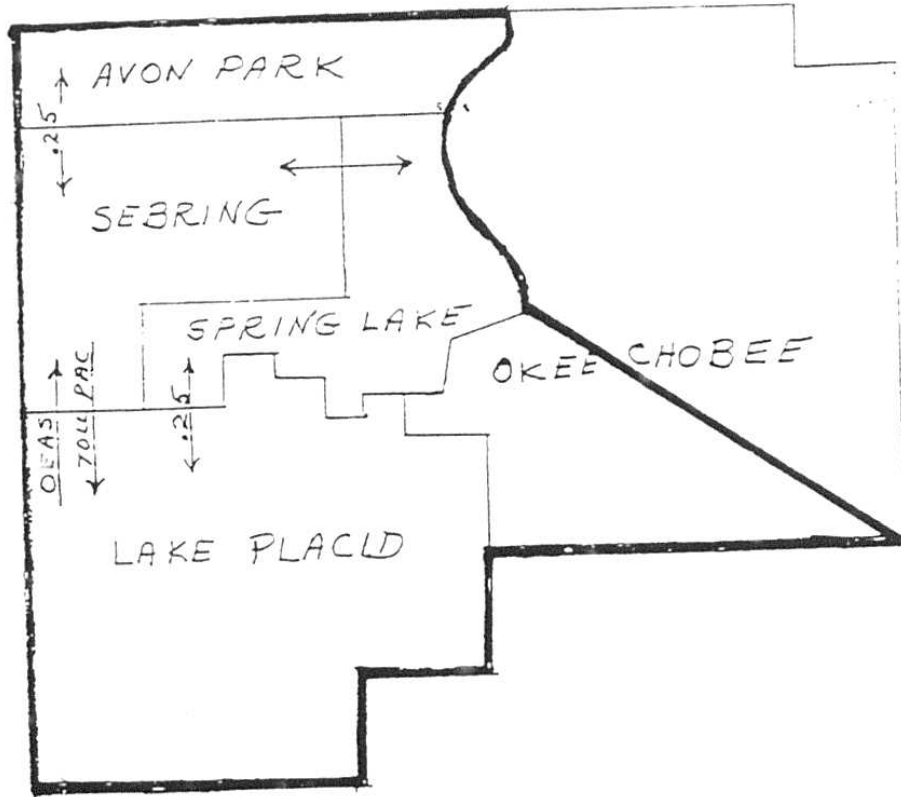
Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this order becomes final and effective 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 effective date of this order, 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.

EXCHANGE DATA					
EXCHANGE	LEC	MARKET AREA	ACCESS LINES EAS LINES	EAS CALLING SCOPE	BASIC RATES
AVON PARK	UNITED	Fort Myers	8,917* 8,917**	[Sebring]	R-1 \$ 6.47 B-1 \$15.20 PBX \$30.40
LAKE PLACID	UNITED	Fort Myers	9,891* 9,891**	[Spring Lake] [Sebring]	R-1 \$ 6.47 B-1 \$15.20 PBX \$30.40
SEBRING	UNITED	Fort Myers	20,568* 25,750**	Spring Lake (Lake Placid) [Avon Park]	R-1 \$ 7.22 B-1 \$16.96 PBX \$33.91
SPRING LAKE	UNITED	Fort Myers	3,907* 25,750*	Sebring [Lake Placid]	R-1 \$ 7.22 B-1 \$16.96 PBX \$33.91
OKEECHOBEE	UNITED	Fort Myers	16,771* 16,771**	None	R-1 \$ 6.47 B-1 \$15.20 PBX \$30.40

- \* HOME EXCHANGE
- \*\* TOTAL CALLING SCOPE
- () OPTIONAL TOLL PLAN
- [ ] \$.25 PER CALL

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-  HIGHLANDS COUNTY LIMIT
-  EXCHANGE BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING EASE