

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for approval of) DOCKET NO. 940616-TL
tariff filing to delete) ORDER NO. PSC-94-1022-FOF-TL
WatchAlert service from obsolete) ISSUED: August 23, 1994
section of General Exchange)
Tariff by UNITED TELEPHONE)
COMPANY OF FLORIDA. (T-94-247)
filed 5/5/94)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
SUSAN F. CLARK
DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

United Telephone Company of Florida (United) filed proposed revisions to its General Exchange Tariff on May 5, 1994. The purpose of the filing was to delete its WatchAlert service.

United introduced WatchAlert as AlarmLine in May of 1987. The service was restricted to the Winter Park and Winter Garden areas at the time of introduction, with future plans to provide the service in the Fort Myers, Naples and Ocala areas. Due to poor market demand in the Winter Park and Winter Garden areas, those future plans were subsequently cancelled.

In 1988, the name of the service was changed to WatchAlert. This change was made to enhance recognition and sales of the service, since WatchAlert is the name used by Southern Bell for its version of the same service. Despite a large marketing campaign, the service was never widely accepted and customer demand did not increase significantly.

By Order No. 24848, issued July 25, 1991, in Docket No. 910640-TL, the Commission approved United's request to obsolete its WatchAlert tariff and to delete the tariff in two years on July 7, 1993.

Before the two year obsolescence period had expired, United filed a tariff requesting a one-year extension prior to the

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deletion of its WatchAlert service and by Order No. PSC-93-1047-FOF-TL, issued July 19, 1993, in Docket No. 930527-TL, the Commission approved a tariff filing to extend the date for deletion of WatchAlert Service for one year.

United's tariff filing to delete WatchAlert from the obsolete section of its General Exchange Tariff is appropriate because there has not been a request for the service during the past year and there is not likely to be any future demand.

At the July 5, 1994 agenda conference, the Commission approved the deletion of United's WatchAlert service to become effective August 1, 1994. United was to provide notice of the deletion to its existing WatchAlert customers as soon as possible after the agenda conference.

On July 13, 1994, United requested to revise the effective date of the deletion from August 1, 1994 to August 26, 1994 due to unforeseen delays in processing the notification letter. United asserted that this additional time was necessary to give the customers adequate notice and time to locate an alternative service.

United mailed the letter on July 15, 1994 notifying the existing customers of the deletion of WatchAlert on August 26, 1994. This extension gives adequate time for customers to choose an alternative service. Therefore, United's tariff filing to delete WatchAlert from the obsolete section of its General Exchange Tariff is approved.

It is therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that United Telephone Company of Florida's tariff filing to delete WatchAlert from the obsolete section of its General Exchange Tariff is approved. The effective date of the deletion will be August 26, 1994. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below in the Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review, the tariff shall remain in effect until the protest is resolved. It is further

ORDERED that, if no protest is timely filed, this docket shall be closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 23rd
day of August, 1994.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay Flynn
Chief, Bureau of Records

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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 Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at her office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on September 13, 1994.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

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 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 date this Order becomes final, 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.