Commissioners: SUSAN F. CLARK, CHAIRMAN J. TERRY DEASON JULIA L. JOHNSON DIANE K. KIESLING JOE GARCIA

State of Florida



Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of Records and Reporting (904) 413-6770

Public Service Commission

DATE:

September 1, 1995

TO:

Parties of Record

FROM:

Blanca S. Bayó, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

RE:

Docket No. 920260-TL - Comprehensive review of the revenue

requirements and rate stabilization plan of SOUTHERN BELL

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This is to inform you that Chairman Clark has reported the following communication in the above referenced docket:

Letter from Senator Daryl L. Jones, dated July 6, 1995.

Senator Jones' letter and Chairman Clark's response, copies of which are attached, are being made a part of the record in these proceedings. Pursuant to Section 350.042, F.S., any party who desires to respond to an ex parte communication may do so. The response must be received by the Commission within 10 days after receiving notice that the ex parte communication has been placed on the record.

BSB/cp

Attachments

cc: Rob Vandiver/w/letter

GUNTER BUILDING ● 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD ● TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0870 "An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer"

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08617 SEP-18

Susan F. Clark Chairman



Gerald L. Gunter Building 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 (904) 413-6040 FAX (904) 487-1716

Public Service Commission

August 21, 1995

The Honorable Daryl L. Jones Senator, District 40 The Florida Senata 9300 South Dadeland Boulevard Suite 401 Miami, Florida 33156

Dear Senator Jones:

Thank you for your letter dated July 6, 1995, in support of Southern Bell's proposal to implement extended calling service (ECS) on a number of routes in South Dade County.

The Commission conducted a hearing on Southern Bell's proposal on July 31, 1995, and is scheduled to render a decision at its September 12, 1995, agenda conference. A final order is scheduled to be issued September 29, 1995. Parities to the proceeding may request reconsideration of the Commission's decision and may appeal the decision to the Florida Supreme Court.

I am unable to comment on the merits of the company's proposal while this matter is pending. I will, however, place your letter and those forwarded with your letter on the correspondence side of the docket file where it will be available for review by the parties to the proceeding.

Thank you again for your letter. If you have any further questions, please call me at (904) 413-6040, or Ms. Ann Shelfer at (904) 413-6536.

Sincerely,

Susan F. Clark

J Jack

Chairman

c: Division of Records and Reporting-- Docket No. 920260-TL

An Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

THE FLORIDA SENATE

SENATOR DARYL L. JONES

40th District

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

95-023 LOMMITTEES:

Higher Education, Vice Chairman Criminal Justice Governmental Reform and Oversight Judiciary Ways and Means, Sub. D (Criminal Justice)

JOINT COMMITTEE: Legislative Information Technology Resources

July 6, 1995

Ms. Susan F. Clark, Chairperson Public Service Commission Fletcher Building 101 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RECEIVED

AUG 0 8 1995

Flarica Public Service Comm. Commissioner Clark

Dear Ms. Clark:

The inclusion of South Dade telephone subscribers into the Southern Bell 25 cents extended area service system (EAS) is a change that could affect more than 2 million Southern Bell customers in South Florida. Incorporation of South Dade into the EAS, would provide residential subscribers with the benefit of calling North Dade and Fort Lauderdale for only 25 cents per call. Consumers could save up to \$43 million and at the same time, satisfy the \$25 million rate reduction requirement mandated by the PSC.

Businesses of South Dade that are still in the process of recovering from Hurricane Andrew, are at a competitive disadvantage through the current area in the system. As a result of reduced business rates, these businesses would experience improved communication and facilitation of commercial activities with Broward County.

Please give this proposal full consideration when it is presented before the Board for final approval later this summer. Thank you in advance for your diliberation in this matter.

Sincerely

Darvi

DLJ/kt

REPLY TO:

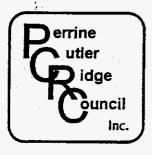
3 9300 South Dadeland Boulevard, Suite 401, Miami, Florida 33156 (305) 442-6901 212 Senate Office Building, Taliahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (904) 487-5127

In Monroe County 1-800-303-2988

JAMES A. SCOTT President

MALCOLM E. BEARD President Pro Tempore JOE BROWN Secretary

WAYNE W. TODD, JR. Sergeant at Arms



June 5, 1995

Leif Gunderson Chairman

George Cadman, III Vice-Chairman

Denise Heacock Secretary-Treasurer

Steven Cranman Executive Director

Board of Directors

Wilbur Bell

Donald Burgess

Mary Collins

Albert Dotson, Sr.

Dr. John Gentile

Ed Hanna

Susan Ludovici

J. Porter McClean

Philip Sharkey

Deborah Curtin Ex Officio

Kemi Vaughan **Executive Assistant**

Senator Daryl Jones 9300 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 401 Miami, FL 33156

Dear Senator Jones:

On behalf of the Perrine-Cutler Ridge Council, I am respectfully requesting your consideration and support to enable the inclusion of South Dade telephone subscribers into the Southern Beil 25 cents extended area service system (EAS).

RECEIVED JUN D & 1995

Since February of this year, when it came to the Council's attention that the vast majority of South Dade telephone subscriber's wouldn't be included into the newly created EAS, the Council set forth an initiative to rectify this inequity of telephone service to our area.

I am very pleased to report to you that the Council was successful in winning over Southern Bell's support to include South Dade into the EAS. Extreme gratitude must be expressed to Spero Canton of Southern Bell who was pivotal in making this decision become a reality.

By inclusion of South Dade into the EAS, residential subscribers will be able to place calls into Broward County as far North as Commercial Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale for only 25 cents a call, and therefore eliminating the present long distance charge structure. Homestead residents will receive an additional benefit of being able to eliminate the present long distance charge imposed on them when calling into North Dade.

Business Rates, now at 20 cents a minute would decrease to 10 cents the first minute and 6 cents a minute thereafter with the EAS in place.



The inclusion of South Dade into the EAS will benefit telephone users with significant rate reduction in regional calling and improve communications between trading areas, enhancing commerce.

The only stumbling block from turning this into a reality is the final approval from the Public Service Commission. The P.S.C. is supposed to hear this matter sometime this summer. Unfortunately a date has not been determined as of yet.

I would deeply appreciate if you would be able to send a letter to the Commissioners of the Public Service Commission supporting this measure so we can clear this final hurdle and obtain EAS for South Dade. It is critical that we let the P.S.C. know that this is in the best interest of the community and to approve the request. Southern Bell officials have indicated to me that the Public Service Commission is not so earnest in handing out EAS approvals, making it most important that we communicate that this is the desire of the community and we want EAS in South Dade. The following is the list of Public Service Commissioners to whom letters should be directed to. For your convenience, I've also included news clips regarding this issue to assist you.

Once again, thanks for your consideration regarding this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me for any assistance that I can provide.

Steven J. Cranman

Executive Director

Public Service Commission

Commissioners

Susan F. Clark, Chairman J. Terry Deason Julia L. Johnson Diane K. Kiesling Joe Garcia

Address & Phone

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

1-800-342-3552

FINAL EDITION

The Miami Herald

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1995

CONTENTS COPYRIGHT # 1995 THE MAMINETIALD

35 CENTS

Southern Bell asks to expand 25-cent call area

By MINN WHITEFIELD Herald Business Writer

For just 25 cents, Minmi residents could call as far north as Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale callers could reach Homestead under a proposal filed by Southern Bell on Wednesday.

More than two million Southern Bell customers in Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties and part of south Palm Beach County could be affected by the

The phone company has asked the Florida Public Service Commission to allow it to begin charging the cheaper

residential rates in December. It also is proposing a second phase that would extend the local calling area for northern Florida counties starting in February 1996.

Southern Bell executives contend that this filing — which the company says could save consumers \$43 million — should more than satisfy the \$25 million in rate reductions mandated by the PSC in a 1994 agreement.

"There's never a guarantee the PSC will do anything," said Southern Bell spokesman Spero Canton. He expects the regulatory commission to take up

The proposal increases the South Florida area eligible for a flat charge for short-haul, long-distance calling.

the flat-rate proposal this summer or early fall.

Last December, the PSC shot down a similar proposal from Southern Bell, saying that too few calls were made on routes such as Pompano Beach-Homestead. The PSC required Southern Hell to show that the change could benefit a substantial number of customers.

The new proposal increases the area of Dade and Broward counties already eligible for a flat 25-cent charge for short-haul, long-distance calling. That charge went into effect on Jan. 23 for callers north of Perrine and south of Commercial Boulevard.

Many South Dade customers who weren't eligible for that rate were irate.

"We received a lot of complaints from the Perrine area and south," said Canton. "They felt this was an opportunity that passed them by and they didn't understand why."

The situation was further complicated by the fact that some nearby neighbors got the rate, and others didn't. That happened because eligibility was determined by the first three digits of a phone number, and such prefixes didn't always correspond neatly to geographic

PLEASE SEE PHONES, SA

Southern Bell asks to expand local calling

PROPOSED FLAT-RATE CALLING AREAS

A new Southern Sell proposal would greatly expand the areas for 25-cent toil calls for residents in Dade, Broward, Monroe and Palm Beach counties. Here are the parameters for proposed flat-rate calling areas:

Balle Glade	East to West Palm Beach
Bocs Fleton	Morth to West Palm Beach; south to Midmit 🗇 :
Boymon Beach	South to Boce Raton
Coral Borings	North to Dairsy Beach, youth to Homesteed 👯
Deerfield Beach	South to Perrine
Delray Beach	North to West Palm; south to Lauderdale
Fort Lauderdele	North to Delray Beach, south to Homestead
Hollywood	North to Bose Reton; south to Homestand
Homestead	North to Dearfield Beach; south to Key West
Jupiter	North to Port St. Lucie
Keys	Anywhere from Key West to Miami
Mieni	North to Bode Pation; south to Key West
North Dade	North to Soca Flaton; south to Homestead
Pahokes (1994)	East to West Palm Beach
Perrine	North to Deerfield Beach; south to Key West
Pompano Beach	North to Dairpy Beach; south to Homesteed
West Palm Beach	North to Port St. Lucie, south to Bocs; west to Belle Glade and Pahokes

PHONES, FROM 1A

arcas

The new Southern Bell proposal would give residents of the South Dade communities of Perrine and Homestead the ability to call even further north — to Deerfield Beach, and as far south as Key West for 25 cents, regardless of the length of the call.

"This goes beyond the Dade-Broward community. We think this is a better alternative," said Canton. "If you think about it, this is really one continuous area."

Under the proposal, business customers would be billed 10 cents for the first minute and six cents for each additional minute.

Currently, basic daytime rates for long-distance calls in sections of the four-county area that Southern Bell wants to make eligible for the 25-cent flat rate are 19 to 20 cents per minute.

Talk is cheap

Perrine-CR Council examining ways to get 25¢ long-distance calls into South Dade

By JIM PANARO COURIER STAFF WRITER

A Southern Bell representative will try to answer questions about why Perrine and Cutler Ridge residents and businesses were excluded 25cent extended area service.

Spokesman Spero Canton is scheduled to attend a meeting

of the Perrine-Cutler Ridge Council, slated for 8 a.m. Tuesday at the Perrine office of Chamber South, 900 Perrine Ave. The meeting is open to the public.

Currently,

Southern Bell offers 25-cent calls from exchanges ranging as far north as Commercial Blvd. in Broward County and south to roughly the Howard area. Common Perrine and Cutler Ridge exchanges, such as 233, 235, 253 and 378 are excluded.

Perrine Cutler Ridge Council Executive Director Steve Cranman said he would like to see the extended area service (EAS) go at least as far south as Southwest 211th Street.

Cranman believes area businesses are being unfairly penalized, especially since many are still trying to recover from Hurricane Andrew, because calls to Broward are toll calls.

Canton pointed out Southern Bell had little say in creating EAS coverage.

"We're heavily-regulated and

our options are few and far between," he said. "The Public Service Commission won't allow us to arbitrarily say we're going to allow EAS to this or that exchange. They

have to draw a line in the sand somewhere and this is where they've drawn it."

Canton explained EAS was put into current areas because of pressure on the PSC from the Dade and Broward county commissions. He suggested area residents and business owners contact either local political representatives or phone the PSC at 1-800-342-3552 to voice their opinion on extending EAS to Perrine and Cutler Ridge.



Perrine callers may ring up lower rate to Lauderdale

By OSCAR MUSIBAY Herald Staff Writer

This summer, the agency that regulates long-distance fees for callers will decide whether Perrine should get a special rate when calling to Fort Lauderdale.

Several routes will be evaluated, including connections between Coral Springs and Miami, Deerfield Beach and Miami, and Fort Lauderdale and Perrine.

PSC to evaluate long-distance policy

By Southern Bell's definition, Perrine includes homes north of 152nd Street. The Perrine telephone prefixes are assigned to households as far north as The Falls area.

As of January, Southern Bell has been billing customers north of Perrine and south of Commercial Boulevard a flat rate of 25 cents when making a call inside the zone. Callers got

the rate because at least 50 percent of area residents make two or more calls per month within the area.

The majority of residents in South Dade did not meet the high volume requirement, so they don't get the special rate.

Areas from Perrine south pay varying rates throughout the day when calling Broward. Rates include 19 cents per minute from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Af 5 p.m., callers pay 13 cer until 11 p.m. Rates also vary weekends.

Steven Cranman, executi director of the Perrine-Cut. Ridge Council, said the sta Public Service Commission volume standard is unfair as doesn't appropriately considurea businesses that sell ar trade with Broward.

PLEASE SEE CALLS.

Perrine callers may get a break

CALLS, FROM 3

Southern Bell spokesman Spero Canton said the company would like to offer a flat rate to other neighborhoods, but its hands are tied.

"We have no control over it." he said. "The PSC defines the area."

After the new rates were implemented in January, complaints clogged the switchboard at the PSC.

"People were calling asking if they could have the 25-cent rate," said Bev DeMello, PSC spokeswoman, "That's what prompted the review."

After the review is complete, the PSC may broaden its rate standard to include areas of vital service such as schools and hospitals, even if the volume of calls is not high, DeMello said.

Raising static

25¢ calls don't ring through for all

By JOHN LANTIGUA Herald Staff Writer

When Sheri Braun read that telephone rates between Dade and Broward had been slashed. she was delighted. She lives near The Falls, has family and friends in Broward and was looking forward to longer, cheaper chais on the phone.

Then she learned she wasn't eligible for the new "extended

area service. "I can't tell you how angry I am about this," said Braun, 27, "A girl I work with lives a mile away and gets the encaper rate, and ! don't. It makes no sense.

Braun isn't alone in her anger.

Since announcing the new calling plan. Southern Bell has experienced an carful of bad connections with customers.

"I understand the frustration. especially in cases where one neighbor has it and the next one doesn't," said Southern Bell spokesman Spero Canton.

The problem, he said, is that who gets the 25-cent rate is deter-mined by the first three digits of the phone number - and those telephone prefixes don't neatly specific geographic boundaries.

A map distributed by the com-

PLEASE SEE CALLS. 28

25° calls don't ring true for all customers

CALLS, FROM 18

pany when the new rates were announced showed the discounts started just north of Perrine, and extended into Broward, but did not include North Broward. Residential calls that had been billed at 19 cents a minute were reduced to a flat 25 cents a call. For businesses, the new rate is 10 cents for the first minute, 6 cents for each subsequent minute.

The problem is that some people who live north of Perrine have telephone exchanges the phone company labels as being in Perrine.

Amy Kaye, 61, hves near 144th Street and U.S. 1, well north of Perrine, and she looked forward to speaking more often to a close friend in Broward.

"Then I read that I wasn't included," she said. "People living near me were, but I wasn't and, boy, that aggravated me.

Jeff Taub, president of Solutions on Software, a computer business near Tamiami Airport on Southwest 129th Street and 132nd Court, had a different complaint. He said he got a flier with his office phone bill telling him about the change. But since his number is serviced by the

QUARTER CALLS

The new 25-cent-a-call service affects 81 percent of Dade and Broward's 2.1 million telephones. Here's a list of the phone prefixes affected. If your phone number begins with one of the prefixes listed below, you can call for just a quarter to any of the other prefixes across the county line:

FORT LAUDERDALE EXCHANGES

207, 215, 231, 236, 244, 259, 269, 286, 316, 321, 327, 349, 351, 355, 356, 357, 359, 370, 384, 389, 390, 398, 398, 402, 405, 408, 409, 412, 413, 423, 424, 434, 440, 452, 458, 462, 463, 466, 467, 468, 469, 472, 473, 374, 475, 478, 484, 832, 845, 846, 847, 848, 855, 875, 877, 878, 879, 896, 897, 898, 928, 938, 950, 992

HOLLYWOOD EXCHANGES

430, 431, 432, 433, 435, 436, 437, 438, 440, 450, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 929, 961, 962, 963, 964, 966, 967, 981, **383, 385**, **986**, 987,

MIAMI EXCHANGES

206, 212, 214, 217, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 225, 226, 227, 229, 241, 227, 250, 260, 151, 262, 261, 264, 205, 266, 267, 268, 270, 271, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 279, 284, 285,

NORTH DADE EXCHANGES

833, 934, 935, 936, 937, 940, 944, 945, 947, 948, 949, 952, 954, 967, 960, 976

Perrine exchange, he was excluded.

"You assume if they send you the flier, you qualify for the rate," he said. But when his bill arrived recently, he found he'd been left out. "I think Southern Bell is going to see a lot of angry people."

Canton said the decision on which prefixes were included in the flat rate was made by the Public Service Commission.

"We don't have a lot of control

over which prefixes are included, he said.

Canton said the PSC measures the volume of calls between one central phone exchange and another, and if it is high enough, that area qualifies for reduced rates. But the commission also requires that 50 percent of customers in the one area make at least two calls a month to the second area. Calls from the Perrine exchange to Broward did not meet both criteria.

The PSC has said it will review the volume of calls and rates between Perrine and points north later.

Braun wants that review to happen soon. She has contacted the PSC and asked to see the research it used to determine who is included and who isn't.

There must be businesses that have been put at a competitive disadvantage by this policy," she said. "I just think the whole thing is unfair."



Post-it® Fax Note 7671 Date 6/5/95 pages > 7

To Senator Jones From Steven Cranman

Co./Dept.

Phone # Fax # Fax #

June 5, 1995

Leif Gunderson Chairman

George Cadman, iii Vice-Chairman

Denise Heacock
Secretary-Treasurer

Steven Cranman

Executive Director

Board of Directors

Wilbur Bell

Donald Burgess

Mary Collins

Albert Dotson, Sr.

Dr. John Caritile

Ed Hanna

Susan Ludovici

J. Porter McClean

Philip Sharkey

Deborah Curtin

Kerri Vaughan

Executive Assistant

Senator Daryl Jones 9300 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 401 Miami, FL 33156

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