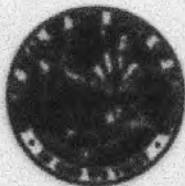


STATE OF FLORIDA

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



DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES
NOREEN S. DAVIS
DIRECTOR
(904) 413-6199

Public Service Commission

May 1, 1997

VIA FACSIMILE

F. Marshall Deterding, Esquire
Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley
2548 Blairstone Pines Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire
Gray, Harris & Robinson, P.A.
201 East Pine Street, Suite 1200
Orlando, FL 32802-3068

Re: Docket No. 960367-WU - Application for amendment of Certificate No. 427-W to add territory by Windstream Utilities Company in Marion County.

Dear Mr. Deterding & Mr. Cloud:

Here are the preliminary issues that we have identified in this case. If all parties are in agreement, staff is amenable to conducting the pre-prehearing conference by telephone to save time and expense.

ISSUE 1: Pursuant to Section 367.045(2)(b), Florida Statutes, is there a need for service in the territory which Windstream Utilities Company (Windstream) seeks to add to its certificate of authorization?

ISSUE 2: Pursuant to Section 367.045(2)(b), Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-30.036(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code, does Windstream have the technical ability and adequate capacity to serve the territory which it seeks to add to its certificate of authorization?

ISSUE 3: Pursuant to Section 367.045(b), Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-30.036(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code, does Windstream have the financial ability to serve the territory which it seeks to add to its certificate of authorization.

ISSUE 4: Would the proposed amendment of Windstream's territory result in the extension of a system which would be in competition with, or duplication of, any other system or portion of a system?

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
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- WAS _____
- OTH _____

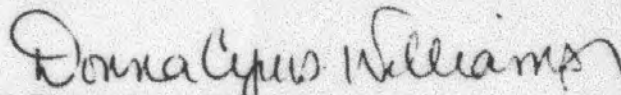
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F. Marshall Deterding, Esquire
Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire
Page 2
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- ISSUE 5: Does service exist from other sources within the geographical proximity to the areas that Windstream seeks to add to its certificate of authorization.
- ISSUE 6: If the proposed amendment of Windstream's territory would result in the extension of a system which would be in competition with, or a duplication of, any other system or portion of a system, is such other system or portion thereof inadequate to meet the reasonable needs of the public or are the persons operating it unable, refusing, or neglecting to provide reasonable adequate service?
- ISSUE 7: Pursuant to Section 367.045 (5) (a), Florida Statutes, is it in the public interest for the Commission to grant Windstream's amendment application.

Please call me with any questions at (904) 413-6185.

Sincerely,


Donna Cyrus-Williams
Staff Counsel

DCW:mw

cc: Office of Public Counsel
Division of Records & Reporting
Division of Water & Wastewater (Redemann)