

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Proposed Rule 25-24.845, F.A.C.,)
 Customer Relations; Rules Incorporated,)
 And Proposed Amendments to Rules 25-4.003,)
 F.A.C., Definitions; 25-4.110, F.A.C., Customer) Docket No. ~~25-24.845~~
 Billing; 25-4.118, F.A.C., Interchange Carrier) Filed: January 15, 1998
 Selection; 25-24.490, F.A.C., Customer Relations;)
 Rules Incorporated.)

SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
 PREHEARING STATEMENT

Sprint Communications Company Limited Partnership ("Sprint") submits this its Prehearing Statement in the above styled and stated docket.

A. All Known Witnesses: Sprint has prefiled the testimony of the following witness:

<u>Witness:</u>	<u>Testimony:</u>	<u>Issues</u>
Sandoz Buysee-Baker	Direct and Rebuttal	All

B. All Known Exhibits: No known exhibits at this time. Sprint reserves the right to utilize additional exhibits for the purpose of cross-examination.

C. Statement of Basic Position: Sprint agrees that unauthorized changes in a subscribers' carrier selections, a practice commonly known as 'slamming,' is a significant consumer problem. Slamming clearly impacts all participants in the competitive interchange market. What is not yet certain, however, is how best to address the problem.

Sprint believes the Commission's proposed rule changes are unnecessary as the current rules are adequate and, when adhered to, have the capability to control the slamming problem. Sprint recommends that the Commission avoid the indiscriminate application of its rules to all carriers. There appears to be a group of violators that make it a practice not to comply with any verification

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

~~25-24.845~~ 15 8

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

regulation. The general public would be better served if the Commission would focus on those carriers that intentionally and habitually change a customer's service without any authority or justification. These carriers do not have much investment in the market nor are they interested in doing business in the long term. They not only violate the Commission's Rules, but they disparage reputable companies such as Sprint.

If the Commission adopts additional rules, Sprint recommends that this Commission adopt rules that are consistent with Federal Rules to ensure that carriers are successful in implementing their verification process. Any interexchange carrier that is required to utilize differing verification practices based on an individual state's rules may find itself in violation of either the state or federal requirements.

D-F Sprint Positions on the Issues: There have been no specific issues identified to date.

G. Stipulation: Sprint is unaware of any stipulations at this time.

H. Pending Motions: Sprint has no pending motions at this time.

Respectfully submitted,


Sprint Communications Company
Limited Partnership

Melinda M. [unclear]
Benjamin W. Fincher
3100 Cumberland Circle
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(404) 649-5145
Attorneys for Sprint Communications Company
Limited Partnership