

SARASOTA EQUINE ASSOCIATES

JOHNNIE F. COPELAND, Jr., D.V.M.

8325 WHISKEY POND LANE
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34240
(941) 355-7759

ORIGINAL

WILLIAM J. MCGINTY, D.V.M.



February 17, 1998

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records & Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Fl., 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 970990-TL
Proposed tariff filing by GTE Florida Incorporated to
transfer a portion of the Sarasota exchange into the
Bradenton exchange.

Dear Ms. Bayo,

Please find enclosed the rebuttal testimony of William J.
McGinty, D.V.M. on behalf of himself and Sarasota Equine
Associates in the above matter. Service has been made as
indicated on the Certificate of Service. If there are any
questions regarding this matter, please contact me at
(941) 355-7759.

Very Truly Yours,


William J. McGinty, D.V.M.

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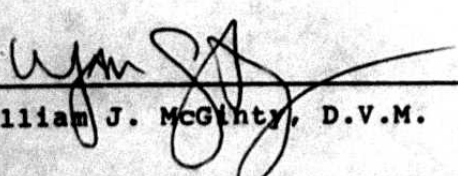
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of Dr. William J. McGinty of Sarasota Equine Associate's rebuttal testimony in Docket no. 970990-TL were sent via mail on February 17, 1998 to the parties listed below.

Mary Beth Keating, Staff Counsel
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Fl., 32399-0850

Kimberly Caswell
P.O. Box 110, FLTC 0007
Tampa, Fl., 33601
Attorney for GTE Florida, Inc.



William J. McGinty, D.V.M.

SARASOTA EQUINE ASSOCIATES

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM MCGINTY

DOCKET NO. 970990-TL

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Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO GTEFL'S REASON FOR THIS TRANSFER?

A. The only residential development south of University Parkway is the Sarasota Polo Club. This is part of Lakewood Ranch in name only. It can not be considered part of the neighborhood, it consists of polo barns, and not houses on small plots of land. There is little communication between the polo grounds and Lakewood Ranch. If the area in Sarasota county remains a Sarasota exchange, it will not affect anyone living either north or south of University Parkway. It will be a local call for both. If GTEFL is worried about close neighbors having different calling scopes and different local rates, they will have the same problem with the area just south of their proposed new line. This will be quite far into Sarasota county. The plans that I have seen for the area south of University Parkway, is for commercial use, again, this does not divide a residential neighborhood. University Parkway is a four lane road with a median.

1 It is also the boundary between Sarasota and Manatee
2 counties. It also remains a good division for the
3 telephone company. To me it makes good sense to keep
4 that which is in Manatee in Manatee and that which
5 is in Sarasota, in Sarasota. Again, for us, we are
6 only concerned with our ability to make and receive
7 local calls to the Venice area. Our business will
8 be compromised if we are unable to continue this.

9

10 Q. DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY CUSTOMERS WILL BE AFFECTED?

11

12 A. Including Horses? No I do not, but from driving around
13 most of the area is not developed and on the plans
14 that I have seen it will be commercial. The 73 residential
15 customers have to be in the polo club.

16

17 Q. What is your response to GTEFL's options for your
18 situation?

19 A. All options would have added cost to Sarasota Equine.

20 I am not as concerned about the added cost to make
21 a call as I am about the possible loss of client
22 calls to us because they may think we are too far away to be of
23 service. Had Venice always been a toll call, I would
24 not be as concerned.

25 Q. Does this end your rebuttal?

26 A. Yes Can you tell I typed this myself?