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April 20, 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 GTEFL to transfer a portion of the Sarasota exchange into  
the Bradenton exchange

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Please find enclosed Sarasota Equine Associates' Posthearing Statement for filing in the  
above matter. Although the date for this was on the 16th of this month, I did not receive  
the late filed exhibits of GTEFL until April 14, 1998. I was unable to respond until this  
time as I was called out of town and was unable to look at the exhibits until this time.

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMU Hewlings
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- EAG \_\_\_\_\_
- LEG 1
- LIN 3
- OPC \_\_\_\_\_
- RCH \_\_\_\_\_
- SEC 1
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

  
William J McGinty DVM

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
04518 APR 22 98  
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

**BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**In Re: Docket No. 970990-TL**

**Proposed tariff filing by GTEFL to  
transfer a portion of the Sarasota  
exchange into the Bradenton exchange**

**Filed: April 21, 1998**



**SARASOTA EQUINE ASSOCIATES' BRIEF**

**SEA 'S RESPONSE TO THE LATE-FILE EXHIBIT NO.S 1,2,3,4,&6 OF GTEFL**

**NO.1 "A HYBRID APPROACH"**

**SEA bought it's property locate on the Sarasota County side of University Parkway, the county line between Sarasota and Manatee counties. It was purchased from Polo Ranch Inc., not from Lakewood Ranch Inc. While both orginated from Schroeder-Manatee Inc., they are seperate entities. There is little, if any social or economic communication between the two. This would include "neighborhood communication" that the article speaks of. The Polo Club aside from being in another county, is zoned larger tracts of land than is Lakewood Ranch, land owners are required to be members of a Polo organization and is meant mostly to cater toward Polo players and their horses. Unlike Lakewood Ranchs which is a residential devlopment on smaller tracts (1/4 to 1/2 acre lots) This type zoning is not allowed in this part of Sarasota county.**

It is important to realize the separation of the two. In GTEFL's testimony, it stated that "GTEFL decided to serve the complete out of one exchange to avoid the situation of close neighbors in the development having different calling scopes and different local rates". To begin with, we are not talking about having to make a long-distance call to a party on the other side of University Parkway. As far as having different rates, I would not be so bold as to suggest that maybe they make the rates the same, but rather note the the same rate difference exists just west of the proposed transfer, and this does not seem to create a problem. Since Sarasota Polo Club is not part of Lakewood Ranch, GTEFL's argument of having one exchange for the development is not valid. SEA is not in Lakewood Ranch.

There is no mention of cost in the reason for requesting the transfer, but what was mentioned was that this request for the transfer was initiated by the developer of Lakewood Ranch so that more calling amenities could be offered to the residents of Lakewood Ranch such as 4 digit calling. SEA is not in Lakewood Ranch and should not have to suffer. It was the developer, a single entity, that requested these enhanced services for his development, not a group of individual customers. SEA is also a single entity, albeit, smaller and should have the same rights when boundaries are requested to be changed. If the boundaries remain the same, Lakewood Ranch will not suffer either real nor potential economic loss. SEA will.

## **No 2. COST ANALYSIS TO PUT IN REMOTE SWITCH**

GTEFL's decision to serve the developer's request for enhanced services was their own. The costs expended already were done prior to any decisions made by the Florida Public Service Commission. GTEFL was aware of SEA's request not to be transferred into a Bradenton exchange.

All offers to SEA will increase the cost of telephone service to SEA. SEA already pays a substantial amount for telephone service. GTEFL is not in a position to state whether or not these increases will create a hardship for SEA or not. Without regard to possible loss of income due to reasons already stated, day to day calling to the Venice area will substantially rise. SEA calling scope will be made smaller and SEA will be more difficult to reach unless SEA wants to spend more for telephone service.

**It has been brought to my attention that GTEFL has the ability to offer Foreign Home Office. This would alliviate all problems.**

**No. 3 LEAST COST ALTERNATIVE TO SERVE POLO CLUB  
FROM SARASOTA EXCHANGE**

**This would keep SEA in Sarasota exchange and in the correct telephone book**

**No. 4 HOW GTE SERVES FRUITVILLE RD AND SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST OF  
THE SARASOTA POLO CLUB.**

**It will be developed.**

**SARASOTA EQUINE ASSOCIATES'S GENERAL POSITION**

**Sarasota Equine Associates has been at that location for longer than Lakewood Ranch. It is a business which resides in Sarasota, pays Sarasota County taxes and impact fees. These costs are higher than in Manatee County. Sarasota Equine Associates wishes to remain in all aspects a member of the Sarasota community. There are no horses in Lakewood Ranch. All offers by GTEFL will result in increased costs to SEA. also an intangible possibility of loss of revenue may occur. SEA is a small business and can not afford to allow this possibility. If it does occur; there is no way to retrieve that lost revenue. By placing SEA in a Bradenton exchange, it will make the telephone directory a mess. Where will the name William McGinty DVM be? In the Bradenton directory? Presently it is in the Sarasota directory. Many people know the veterinarian by personal name and would look for it in the correct telephone directory. If the change is made William McGinty will lose potential**

clients because he was not found in Sarasota. Did he move? No, he was put in a Bradenton book where a Sarasota veterinarian normally would not be normally found. Again, the county line is an excellent boundary. It is the boundary both east and west of Lakewood Ranch. Why change it in the middle? GTEFL understands SEA position and does not deny that there will be expense to SEA. GTEFL is not a small business nor is it capable of understanding the fickleness of the average horse owner. The expense to SEA is far greater the GTEFL would expect.

The second issue is should the customers be balloted or not. SEA is very concerned about this. It does not believe that they should. This is a rare case where a more fair answer will be obtained by a consultation rather than a vote. GTEFL has already changed the scope of the area to be balloted. When first contacted, the area in concern was south of University Parkway, this is in Sarasota county. GTEFL has now included an area North of University Parkway, a residential part of Lakewood Ranch which is in Manatee County. Why is this? Obviously, people in Manatee county would want to have a Manatee exchange, (although the only people that showed up at the hearing from that area, wanted to remain a Sarasota telephone exchange). The only affected customers in the original area are either in the Polo Club or in a business park south of University Parkway. With this in mind, SEA does not believe that a ballot would be fair in that a majority of the customers in the Polo Club are temporary residents only. These people are not concerned with the calling scope of the area, much like visitors in a resort. Since a majority of the buildings are barns and not owner occupied any vote would be of people that do not have any concern in the matter. SEA believes that a majority of the residential customers are in the north side of University Parkway, in Manatee County. Why would they be asked to vote on whether the Sarasota residents should be moved into a Manatee exchange? There is no more specific demarcation than a county line, as the area is developed, it is not Lakewood Ranch that is important but rather the people that live there both in and outside of Lakewood Ranch. The County line is a boundary that all can recognize and simply makes the most sense and is most fair to all involved.

By: 

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# SARASOTA EQUINE ASSOCIATES

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WILLIAM J. MCGINTY, D.V.M.



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of Sarasota Equine Associates' Posthearing statements concerning Docket No. 970090-TL were sent via US MAIL on April 21, 1998, to the party listed below.

Kimberly Caswell  
PO Box 110, FLTC 0007  
Tampa FL 32399-0850

Ms. B. Bayo  
Dir. Division of Records and Recording  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd  
Tallahassee, Fl

Mary Beth Keating  
same address as above

  
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William J McGinty DVM