

ORIGINAL

Study on Fair Rates (No. 98000A-SP)
Division of Records and Reporting
2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

August 29, 1998
James M. Morris
2318 Hayes St.
Hollywood, FL 33020-3440

Dr. Sir, or Madam,

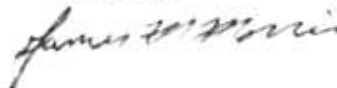
Along with the telephone bill, received Aug. 28, 1998, was a leaflet entitled "IMPORTANT INFORMATION For BellSouth Customers." In that leaflet, it is stated that a hearing is to be held in my area, at Broward County Main Library Auditorium, 100 S. Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on September 3, 1998. This hearing is to be about changing the Florida residential basic local telecommunications service rate. It was also stated that cost data is to be filed by the local exchange telephone companies with the FPSC, and is to be available for public review no later than August 15.

To allow proper study of the cost data, the leaflet should have been sent with the previous months telephone bill. By placing the leaflet in the last bill, there is not enough time to study the costs properly.

I know that many telephone lines have been changed to fiberoptic lines, which are buried in the ground. The initial cost for changing the lines may have been high, however many more transmissions can be placed on a single line than previously possible. The fiberoptic lines are not as likely to be damaged as the old lines. Because of the higher use possibility, and the less maintenance needed, it is my opinion that, if there are any rate changes, the residential rates should be lowered, NOT raised.

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Sincerely,



James M. Morris

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