

MEMORANDUM

October 12 1998

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RECORDS

TO: DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM: DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (WATTS) *CBW/mcb*

RE: DOCKET NO. 981051-TP - Request for approval of transfer of majority organizational control of Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. (Holder of LEC Certificate No. 20) and Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc. (Holder of IXC Certificate No. 5159) to Townes Telecommunications, Inc.

PSC-98-1376-FOF-TP

Attached is an NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER ^{*approving*} ~~OF CONTROL~~ OF MAJORITY ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL to be issued in the above-referenced docket. (Number of pages in order - 4)

CBW/slh
 Attachment
 cc: Division of Communications
 I:981051.cbw

See 1 & 2

3/0.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for approval of transfer of majority organizational control of Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. (holder of LEC Certificate No. 20) and Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc. (holder of IXC Certificate No. 5159) to Townes Telecommunications, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 981051-TP
ORDER NO. PSC-98-1376-FOF-TP
ISSUED: October 12, 1998

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JOE GARCIA
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF MAJORITY
ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, provides that a person may not acquire ownership or control of any telecommunications facility, or any extension thereof for the purpose of providing telecommunications services to the public, including the acquisition, transfer, or assignment of majority organizational control or controlling stock ownership, without prior approval from this Commission.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

11255 OCT 12 98

REPORTING

ORDER NO. PSC-98-1376-FOF-TP
DOCKET NO. 981051-TP
PAGE 2

By letter dated August 20, 1998, Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. (Northeast Florida) and Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc. (Northeast Florida LD) filed with this Commission a joint petition for approval of transfer of majority organizational control to Townes Telecommunications, Inc. (TTI). Northeast Florida is a local exchange telecommunications company authorized by the Commission pursuant to LEC Certificate No. 20 to provide local exchange services in the State of Florida. Northeast Florida LD is an interexchange carrier authorized by the Commission pursuant to IXC Certificate No. 5159 to provide interexchange services in the State of Florida. The names of the certificated companies will remain Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. and Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc., respectively. No modification to the rates, terms, or conditions of Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc.'s or Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc.'s currently filed and effective tariffs is contemplated as a result of the above-described transaction.

We determine that Northeast Florida and Northeast Florida LD and TTI have met the requirements of Section 364.33, Florida Statutes. Accordingly, we find that the transfer of majority organizational control of Northeast Florida and Northeast Florida LD to TTI is in the public interest, and we approve it pursuant to Section 364.33, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is,

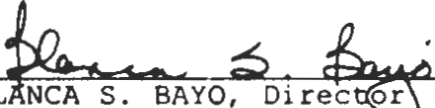
ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the transfer of majority control of Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc. and Northeast Florida Long Distance Company, Inc. to Townes Telecommunications, Inc. is hereby approved pursuant to Section 364.33, Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that the provision of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Recording, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this docket shall be closed.

ORDER NO. PSC-98-1376-FOF-TP
DOCKET NO. 981051-TP
PAGE 3

BY ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 12th
day of October, 1998.



BLANCA S. BAYO, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

CBW

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on November 2, 1998.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

ORDER NO. PSC-98-1376-FOF-TP
DOCKET NO. 981051-TP
PAGE 4

If this order becomes final and effective on the date described above, any party substantially affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.