

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

VOTE SHEET

JUNE 1, 1999

RE: DOCKET NO. 870248-TL - Resolution by Holmes County Board of County Commissioners for extended area service in Holmes County.

DOCKET NO. 870790-TL - Request by Gilchrist County Commissioners for extended area service throughout Gilchrist County.

DOCKET NO. 900039-TL - Resolution by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners for extended area service between the Mount Dora exchange and the Apopka, Orlando, Winter Garden, Winter Park, East Orange, Reedy Creek, Windermere, and Lake Buena Vista exchanges.

DOCKET NO. 910022-TL - Resolution by Bradford County Commission requesting extended area service within Bradford County and between Bradford County, Union County and Gainesville.

DOCKET NO. 910528-TL - Request by PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS for extended area service between the Crescent City, Hawthorne, Orange Springs, and Melrose exchanges, and the Palatka exchange.

DOCKET NO. 910529-TL - Request by PASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS for extended area service between all Pasco County exchanges.

DOCKET NO. 911185-TL - Request for extended area service between all exchanges within Volusia County by Volusia County Council.

DOCKET NO. 921193-TL - Resolution by the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners for extended area service between all exchanges in Palm Beach County.

DOCKET NO. 930173-TL - Petition by the residents of Polo Park requesting extended area service (EAS) between the Haines City exchange and the Orlando, West Kissimmee, Lake Buena Vista, Windermere, Reedy Creek, Winter Park, Clermont, Winter Garden and St. Cloud exchanges.

**DEFERRED**

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: GR DS CL

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

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REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

*To the June 29, 1999  
Commission Conference*

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
**06745** JUN-1 99

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DOCKETS NOS. 870248-TL, 870790-TL, 900039-TL, 910022-TL, 910528-TL, 910529-TL, 911185-TL, 921193-TL, 930173-TL, 930235-TL

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DOCKET NO. 930235-TL - Resolution by the Taylor County Board of Commissioners for countywide extended area service (EAS) within Taylor County.

Issue 1: Should the Commission require the companies to survey the appropriate exchanges for two-way ECS?

Recommendation: Yes. The Commission should require the companies to survey the subscribers in the exchanges identified in Table I of staff's May 20, 1999 memorandum to determine whether the affected customers are in favor of the proposed ECS toll relief plan. The survey should be patterned after the EAS subscriber survey rule, Rule 25-4.063, Florida Administrative Code, with the necessary modifications to reflect that the toll relief proposed is ECS, rather than EAS.

The companies should be required to conduct the survey within 60 days from the date that the Order from staff's recommendation becomes final. The ballot should identify each exchange to which toll relief has been requested and is an option from the subscriber's exchange. The ballot should explain that the subscriber must select each exchange route upon which the subscriber would like to see toll relief implemented. The ballot should further explain that a \$1.00 minimum charge will be included on the subscriber's local telephone bill for each route upon which toll relief is implemented. As identified in the Exchange to be Balloted column of Table I, staff proposes that both ends of certain, specific routes should be balloted. In such cases, if the ballot passes for that route, the minimum charge should be assessed to the subscribers in the exchange where the ballot results are favorable. If the results for that route are favorable from both exchanges, the minimum charge should be assessed to subscribers in both.

In addition, the survey letter accompanying the ballot should explain that for each route upon which toll relief is implemented, the residential subscriber will be allowed to make 4 calls per month without an extra charge beyond the \$1.00 minimum charge. After 4 calls, the residential subscriber will be assessed \$.25 per call regardless of duration. Businesses are not billed on a per call basis; therefore, the 4-call allowance for residential customers must be translated into terms applicable to a business customer. As such, staff recommends that a business customer be allowed up to \$1.00 worth of usage, before the per minute usage charges are assessed. Beyond the \$1.00 usage allowance, the business subscriber will be charged \$.10 for the first minute and \$.06 for each additional minute. Staff emphasizes that the business customer will still be charged the \$1.00 minimum charge per route, just like the residential customer, regardless of whether the business customer's usage exceeds the \$1.00 usage allowance or not.

Staff also notes that the residential and business allowances should be applicable per route. This would mean that if a customer is in an exchange for which two-way ECS is approved to 3 other exchanges, the residential customer will be allowed up to 4 calls per route before the \$.25 per call

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charge is assessed, while the business customer will be allowed up to \$1.00 worth of usage per route before the per minute usage charges are assessed. The residential and the business customer would both have a \$3.00 charge added to their local service bill, regardless of whether they used their allowance or not. The survey letter and ballot should be submitted to staff for review prior to distribution to the affected customers.

In order for the survey to pass, the Commission should require that at least 40 percent of the subscribers balloted must respond, and of those responding, a majority must vote in favor of the proposed ECS toll relief plan. In accordance with Rule 25-4.063 (2), Florida Administrative Code, the Commission should specify that the vote should be calculated per exchange for each route, instead of on a consolidated basis. BellSouth should be required to seek a LATA modification from the FCC for those routes that receive favorable survey results. Furthermore, if the proposed ECS toll relief plan is implemented on any of these routes, IXCs should be allowed to continue to carry the same type of traffic on the routes that they are now authorized to carry.

Issue 2: Should these dockets be closed?

Recommendation: If no person whose substantial interests are affected files a protest within 21 days of the issuance date of the Order, the Order will become final upon issuance of the consummating order. These dockets should, however, remain open pending the outcome of the customer survey. If the Commission denies staff's recommendation in Issue 1, Dockets Nos. 870248-TL, 870790-TL, 900039-TL, 910022-TL, 910528-TL, 910529-TL, 911185-TL, 921193-TL, and 930173-TL should still remain open in order for staff to refile the post-hearing recommendation for the consolidated One-Way ECS proceeding. In addition, if the Commission denies staff's recommendation in Issue 1, Docket No. 930235-TL should be closed upon issuance of the Order, because the Commission has already made its post-hearing decision in that Docket and no further action remains to be taken.