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# Need More Information?

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



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RECORDS AND REPORTING

## GRUCom

- Telecommunications Utility of the City of Gainesville, Gainesville Regional Utilities.
- **GRUCom Mission:**  
"Provide information infrastructure and integrated, low cost data communication services to the Gainesville Urban Area in such a manner as to minimize duplication of facilities, maximize inter-connectivity, simplify access, and promote the evolution of new technologies and business opportunities."

## Gainesville, Florida

- Population
  - City of Gainesville – 100,315
  - Alachua county population - 198,300
- Major Employers
  - University of Florida – 40,000 Students
  - State and local government agencies
  - Three major hospitals
  - Retail trade sector
- Gainesville Regional Utilities
  - Owned by the City of Gainesville
  - Electric customers - 74,000
  - Gas customers - 26,000
  - Water/Wastewater customers - 53,000/47,000 Customers
  - Telecommunications customers - 55

## GRUCom Network

- Fiber based SONET facility constructed over 200 miles.
- Ringed architecture – transport, carrier and access rings.
- Nortel OC-48 transport nodes.
  - 6 nodes, 2 rings (1 additional under construction).
- Nortel OC-12 transport nodes
  - 11 nodes, 5 rings.
- Nortel OC-3 Express nodes.
  - 7 nodes, 2 rings.
- Nortel JungleMux nodes.
  - 9 OC-3 nodes, 67 OC-1 nodes, 12 rings.
  - 156 DS-0 drops, 67 DS-1 drops, 51 Ethernet drops.

## GRUCom FPSC Certificates

- Alternative Access Vendor – Issued 8/24/95.
- Alternative Local Exchange Carrier- Issued 12/17/96.



### **GRUCom Lines of Business**

- Competitive Access Provider (CAP) Transport Services
- Internet Services
- Tower Space Leasing Services
- Trunking Radio Services

### **CAP Transport Services**

- High bandwidth Private Line and Special Access services
- Offered at T-1 (DS-1), 10Mb, DS-3, OC-3, and OC-12 line rates
- Majority of services are T-1 (DS-1), 10Mb Dedicated Ethernet or Ethernet Cloud
- Customers - 55
- Typical Customers:
  - Carriers – GRUCom provides the local loop component of services.
  - Wireless providers - transport to cell sites.
  - University of Florida – outlying facilities to main campus.
  - Public schools and libraries – interconnection of facilities.
  - Hospitals – interconnection with outlying clinics.

### **Internet Services**

- Dedicated and Dial-up service offered.
- Dial-up Internet service is called GRUNet.
- Speeds 28.8kbps to 128kbps (ISDN)
- Basic service includes e-mail account (20mb disc storage), personal WEB page (5mb of storage), UseNet News access.
- Customers - 1,300
- Dedicated Internet Service
  - T-1 (DS-1) and fractional (256kbps, 512kbps and 768kbps) service.
  - Customers - 9
  - Typical Customers:
    - Other Internet Service Providers.
    - Medium to large businesses.

### **Tower Space Leasing**

- Antenna space on tower and ground space for equipment location.
- Manage 11 communications towers and 2 water towers.
- 30 executed leases.
- Customers – 8.
- Typical Customers:
  - Wireless providers - Cellular Telephone and PCS companies.



### **Trunking Radio**

- 800 MHz voice and data network.
- Available solely to government entities due to frequency restrictions.
- Expected In-service 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2000.
- Typical Customers:
  - GRU Utility Operations
  - City of Gainesville Police and Fire
  - University of Florida Police

### **Contact Information**

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THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STAFF WORKSHOP

9:30 A.M., JULY 29, 1999  
BETTY EASLEY CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM 148  
4075 ESPLANADE WAY, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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REGULATIONS AND  
REPORTING

UNDOCKETED STAFF PROJECT

Role of Power Companies In Telecommunications

Introduction:

The State of Florida is undergoing major changes under the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The consequences are far reaching and allows for the open competitive telecommunications market to embark into previously determined monopolistic serving territories of Incumbent Local Exchange Telephone Companies (ILEC's). Since this workshop is designed to explore the possible contributions Utility companies can make to advance choice for the consumer in this new competitive market, we invite Power Utilities, CATV, IXC, CLEC's and ILEC's to participate in this workshop.

The explosive growth of fiber networks placed by the Utilities for their own communication needs have led them toward wholesaling out dark fiber, capacity, to third party IXC and CLEC companies. This convergence is due in part to the need to diversify their investments in light of the pending de-regulation of its industry. They have need to continue their revenue stream. For example, "Montana Power, thru its subsidiary - Touch America, plans to offer IXC, voice, data, video, frame relay, and ISP in several major cities, and into parts of Canada. The strategy is to 'forge a good relationship with our (telecom) customers and then market them energy supply products and services'". Telecommunications Reports, Aug 31, 1998, pg. 15.

The overly used term today is CONVERGENCE. There is convergence for combined billing, convergence for utilities; i.e. computer hardware & data programming, and convergence as applied to the Power Industry - Electric Utilities. It is the later we wish to discuss in this forum.

ROLE OF POWER COMPANIES IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
(Convergence)

AGENDA SCHEDULE

- 9:30 Call to order  
Introduction of Staff and opening statements.
- 9:40-11:00 Presentations by : Florida Power Corporation  
(Progress Telcom)  
City of Tallahassee  
Gainesville Regional Utilities  
Gulf Power a Southern Company
- Q & A Five to Ten minutes between presentations.
- 11:00-11:15 Break
- 11:15-11:40 Open discussion
- 11:40-11:50 Summarize
- 11:50-12:00 Close

THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STAFF WORKSHOP

9:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., JULY 29, 1999  
BETTY EASLEY CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM 148  
4075 ESPLANADE WAY, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

UNDOCKETED STAFF PROJECT

Role of Power Companies In Telecommunications

The purpose of this workshop is to determine whether the power companies have an interest in providing telecommunication services in the State of Florida. Are the power companies looking to serve the end user with data/voice/broadband services?

A. Opening Remarks; introductions.

B. Presentations by Providers:

1. Communications services provided by the Utility.
2. Plans for entering the telecommunications arena.
3. Obstacles to entry into telecommunications services.
4. Plans to expand into telecommunications beyond your company's service areas.

C. Discussion of the following issues:

1. Which of the power companies in Florida has seriously considered providing telecommunications services to the general public?

2. To what extent can the current electric utility companies' telecommunications facilities be utilized to offer telecommunications services to the general public?

3. What barriers of entry do the electric utility companies face providing telecommunication services?

ROLE OF POWER COMPANIES IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
PAGE 2

4. What does your company see as the primary issues/obstacles to Electric Utilities entering into the telecommunications market place?

Are there:

- Local service end-user legal issues?
- Investment/Cost barriers?
- Technical expertise shortages?
- Facilities limitations?
- State PSC regulatory issues?

5. To what extent would City Utility Companies in Florida wish to enter the selling or reselling of telecommunications services to end user residential/business subscribers if the "anti-competitive" issue, being fought in other State Courts, paves the way clear for Muni's to sell local service?

D. Summary: