BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Resolution by the Taylor County Board of Commissioners for countywide extended area service (EAS) within Taylor County. DOCKET NO. 930235-TL ORDER NO. PSC-99-1736-FOF-TL ISSUED: September 2, 1999

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

FINAL ORDER CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

We opened this Docket in response to Resolution No. 93 filed by the Taylor County Board of Commissioners on January 29, 1993, requesting countywide extended area service (EAS) within Taylor County. GTC, Inc. d/b/a GTCom (GTC) provides service to the Keaton Beach and Perry exchanges. BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) provides service to the Steinhatchee pocket of Taylor County, which is served out of the Cross City exchange located in Dixie County. The Keaton Beach and Perry exchanges are located in the Tallahassee local access and transport area (LATA). The Cross City exchange (Steinhatchee pocket) is located in the Gainesville LATA.

Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act), BellSouth is prohibited from originating interLATA traffic until it is authorized to do so pursuant to Section 271. Even when BellSouth does receive Section 271 authority, it can only carry interLATA traffic through a separate, independent affiliate, in accordance with Section 272 of the Act.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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On January 29, 1998, we held customer and technical hearings in Steinhatchee, Florida, to determine if a sufficient community of interest existed on the routes in this docket to justify EAS. Subsequently, by Order No. PSC-98-0794-FOF-TL, issued June 8, 1998, we determined that there was not a sufficient community of interest on the routes to justify implementing EAS. We did, however, direct our staff to discuss with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff the feasibility of a waiver of the LATA boundary on these interLATA routes to allow an Extended Calling Service (ECS) offering on the routes at issue. Therefore, this Docket was kept open.

The discussions with the FCC staff were not productive. The FCC staff indicated that it will only recommend approval of LATA modifications to allow toll relief that is flat-rated, like EAS, as opposed to measured service, like ECS.

We have considered the possibility of a proceeding to review the feasibility of one-way ECS. Upon consideration, we do not, however, believe that this is appropriate or necessary, because BellSouth serves the smaller exchange on both of these routes. Thus, one-way ECS would only provide relief from Keaton Beach to the Steinhatchee Pocket and from Perry to the Steinhatchee Pocket. As we have already determined in Order No. PSC-98-0794-FOF-TL, the true community of interest actually lies in traffic flowing in the opposite direction from the BellSouth exchange (Steinhatchee pocket) into the larger exchanges. One-way ECS would not, therefore, provide the desired relief.

Based on the foregoing, it appears that no other means of toll relief are available for the routes in this docket. Therefore, this Docket shall be closed.

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Docket No. 930235-TL shall be closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>2nd</u> Day of <u>September</u>, <u>1999</u>.

CA S. BAYÓ, Direc

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

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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.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/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 after the issuance 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.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION - RECORDS AND REPORTING Requisition for Photocopying and Mailing Date ____/_ Copies Per Original Number of Originals . Requested By _ ilem Presented In Docket No ._ Rí) Order No. . Agenda For (Date) and the second second In Docket No. _ For (Date) _ Notice of _ Other ----Special Handling Instructions Distribution/Mailing Distribution/Mailed To **Distributed/Mailed To** Number Number Commission Offices Docket Mailing List - Mailed Docket Mailing List - Faxed Note: items must be mailed and/or returned within one working day after issue unless specified here: Print Shop Verilication Verified By ______ 126 lob Number Job Checked For Correctness and Quality (Initial) Date and Time Completed 9 16 Mail Room Vertication Verned By Date Maied SC/RAR 12(2/91)

MEMORANDUM

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September 2, 1999

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RECEIPTION AND REPORTING

TO: DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM: DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (B. KEATING) $\mathcal{H}^{\mathcal{H}}$

RE: DOCKET NO. 930235-TL - RESOLUTION BY THE TAYLOR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR COUNTYWIDE EXTENDED AREA SERVICE (EAS) WITHIN TAYLOR COUNTY.

1736-FOF

Attached is a <u>FINAL ORDER CLOSING DOCKET</u>, to be issued in the above-referenced docket. (Number of pages in order - 3)

BK/anc Attachment cc: Division of Communications I: 930235co.bk

See !-

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