

BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of : DOCKET NO. 990456-TL
:
REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF :
PROPOSED NUMBERING PLAN :
RELIEF FOR THE 561 AREA CODE :

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PROCEEDINGS: WEST PALM BEACH SERVICE HEARING

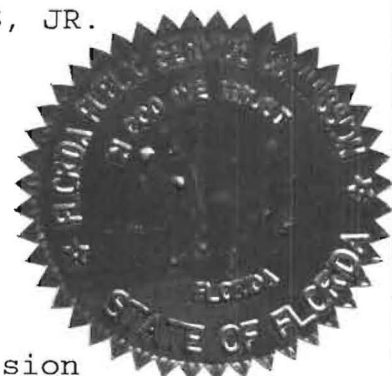
BEFORE: CHAIRMAN JOE GARCIA
COMMISSIONER J. TERRY DEASON
COMMISSIONER E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

DATE: Thursday, March 23, 2000

TIME: Commenced at 10:00 a.m.
Concluded at 2:20 p.m.

PLACE: West Palm Beach City Commission
Chambers
City Hall, 200 2nd Street
West Palm Beach, Florida

REPORTED BY: TRICIA DeMARTE
Official FPSC Reporter



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1 APPEARANCES:

2 DONNA CLEMONS, FPSC Division of Legal Services,
3 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida
4 32399-0850, appearing on behalf of the Commission Staff.

5 CHARLES BECK, Public Counsel, Office of Public
6 Counsel, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee,
7 Florida 32399-1400, appearing on behalf of the Citizens of
8 the state of Florida.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Good morning. Are we early,
3 or are we fine? We're fine. All right. Great. I'm
4 going to call this hearing to order. And, Counsel, will
5 you read the notice?

6 MS. CLEMONS: Yes. Pursuant to notice, this
7 time and place has been set for hearing in Docket
8 Number 990456-TL, request for review of proposed numbering
9 relief plan for the 561 area code.

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Very good. We are going to
11 listen to your testimony; that's why we're here. And so
12 what I'm going to ask is, all those of you who are
13 thinking about speaking, you may want to waive your right
14 to speak later on, but if you're thinking about speaking,
15 I'm going to ask you to rise, and I'm going to swear you
16 in.

17 But let me -- before I get there, just so you
18 understand what we're looking at, you've got a sheet
19 before you that has got a series of plans, of area code
20 splits in this area. And we think after this,
21 Levent Ileri is going to take a course in graphic art,
22 because he has just been able to do some amazing things
23 with all the possibilities that we're looking at. The
24 reason we do that is to give you as much as possible to
25 look at and to give the companies a chance to study this.

1 And it's just so that you can give us a feel about how
2 your calling pattern works, what is it that occurs within
3 this area code, and what your desires and wishes are, and
4 we put that out there for you to see.

5 After we swear you in, we've got Mr. Foley from
6 NeuStar, which is the national numbering administrator.
7 The federal government selects them, and what they do is,
8 they give out area codes as they are needed. And he's
9 going to explain some of these plans and how they work,
10 and then if you have any questions, when he's finished,
11 you can ask us. He will answer them.

12 We also have representatives from BellSouth,
13 which is the local telecommunications service provider
14 here, and they will answer some questions, as well as some
15 of the competitive telecommunications providers are also
16 here. So you may ask them questions as we go through
17 this.

18 To my right is Commissioner Terry Deason; to my
19 left is Commissioner Leon Jacobs, and I'm Joe Garcia. And
20 with that, I just want to see if -- do we have anyone
21 signed up to speak, Mr. Beck?

22 MR. BECK: We have two persons.

23 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Perfect. Mr. Beck is the
24 public counsel. He is here representing Jack Shreve, who
25 is the public counsel for the state of Florida. He is

1 your attorney, in essence. If you are a little bit shy
2 about speaking, trust me, we're not going to ask any hard
3 questions, and I certainly won't let the company ask you
4 any hard questions. So Mr. Beck is your attorney
5 representing you through this. We just want to get a feel
6 for the area.

7 With that, even if you haven't signed up but
8 you're thinking about speaking, I'll ask you to rise and
9 raise your right hand.

10 (Witnesses collectively sworn.)

11 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Great. Now, we are going to
12 bring up Mr. Foley, and he's going to quickly go through a
13 slide presentation. And he's going to show you -- and if
14 there's something you don't understand, because he is
15 going to try to do it quickly, we'll bring him back up and
16 he'll explain that particular issue that we're looking at.

17 Mr. Foley, how are you?

18 MR. FOLEY: Thank you, Chairman Garcia. Folks,
19 good morning. My name is Tom Foley. I am an area code
20 relief planner with the North American Numbering Plan
21 Administration. Back in July of '95, the Federal
22 Communications Commission took an important step
23 concerning competition. They established the North
24 American Numbering Plan Administration. Lockheed Martin
25 originally was named as the administrator under contract.

1 And last year, at the end of last year, Lockheed Martin,
2 because of some competitive issues, divested itself of the
3 North American Numbering Plan Administration and
4 transferred to NeuStar, who is currently the North
5 American Numbering Plan Administrator, and my employer.

6 North American Numbering Plan Relief Activities.

7 The North American Numbering Plan performs area code
8 relief planning to determine the need for, and identify
9 the timing of, any NPA or area code relief necessary. The
10 relief planner takes the lead in preparing several options
11 for each NPA projected to exhaust; convenes an industry
12 meeting to discuss these relief alternatives with the
13 industry, and facilitates a consensus on a single
14 alternative, if possible, to recommend to the Florida
15 Public Service Commission.

16 We also compile and file documents with the FPSC
17 detailing the status of these industry efforts, and we
18 coordinate initial industry implementation issues.

19 Basically, there are three major types of NPA
20 relief or area code relief. The first one is a geographic
21 split. That's the one that most people are fairly common
22 with. That's where a new area code is introduced where
23 one used to be. In some cases, more than one area code is
24 introduced in, like, a three-way split. This happened a
25 few years ago when the 561 area was split from the

1 407 area.

2 An overlay is another method in which more than
3 one NPA serves the same geographic area. This is the case
4 in the Miami area right now. A boundary realignment is
5 another method in which a portion of an adjacent area code
6 is brought into the area code that is exhausting. And, of
7 course, there are several different combinations of these
8 methods that can be put together.

9 The industry has identified several options with
10 attributes for these. Basically, splits, NPA splits,
11 provide a single area code for each geographic area. This
12 may minimize customer confusion. Future splits will
13 further reduce the geographic area involved. Splits
14 require an area code change for approximately one half of
15 the customers or two-thirds of the customers in the case
16 of a three-way split. Geographic splits, however, permit
17 seven-digit local dialing within the smaller home area
18 code.

19 An overlay option, there are multiple area codes
20 serving the same geographic area and will end further
21 shrinkage of the geographic size of the area. An overlay
22 will not require existing customers to change their area
23 code or their telephone number. There's no need to revise
24 stationery, et cetera. An overlay, however, will require
25 customers to make ten-digit local dialing calls.

1 A concentrated growth overlay is somewhat
2 similar to an overlay; however, it has some special
3 concerns. Special and unique monitoring methods, not
4 currently available, are required to predict exhaust.
5 It's difficult to predict the exhaust in the non-overlay
6 area, and customer confusion pertaining to dialing in a
7 concentrated overlay could exist. In order to preserve
8 the codes, the NPA must be identified as needing relief
9 longer -- or sooner and will provide a much shorter area
10 of relief. Concentrated growth overlays minimize the
11 implementation of ten-digit dialing to those areas that
12 are growing the fastest and have the most concern. And
13 normally, no existing customers will be required to change
14 their telephone number.

15 We're here today to talk about the 561 NPA which
16 includes basically Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and
17 Indian River counties in the southeast portion of Florida
18 down here. We have some history. On March 8th of 1999,
19 NANPA determined that the supply of central office codes
20 of the first three digits of your local telephone number
21 were running out in the area and declared what is known as
22 jeopardy.

23 And on May 19th, they held an industry planning
24 meeting, which I mentioned earlier, which the industry
25 discussed several options for providing relief. And on

1 July 6th, the filing was made with the Florida Public
2 Service Commission with the industry's recommendation.

3 Currently, the projected exhaust date with code
4 rationing, which is in place right now, is predicted to be
5 the fourth quarter of 2002. At the industry meeting held
6 in May of last year, the industry considered six relief
7 plans.

8 The first alternative was a distributed overlay.
9 And if you want to put the map up. And this is basically
10 a new area code that would be assigned to the same
11 geographic area as the 561 NPA. It looks the same as
12 that, though. There it is. It would have the same area
13 as the 561 NPA, and the area code expected life of this
14 plan would be about 8.8 years, almost nine years.

15 Alternative 2, which was called the West Palm
16 Beach Plan, is an NPA split. And the split boundaries run
17 along rate center boundaries in the northeast part of West
18 Palm Beach and includes West Palm Beach. It's the area in
19 blue. The area code relief interval for this is 9.5 years
20 for the area, for Area A, and 8.1 years for Area B, the
21 blue area, before relief would be needed again.

22 Alternative 3, which is simply called the
23 Tri-Beach Plan, is another NPA split which includes West
24 Palm Beach, Boynton Beach, and Delray Beach in one
25 geographic area. The area code life for Area A is

1 8.1 years, and Area B is 9.5 years.

2 Alternative 4 is another NPA split. It was
3 submitted by the industry at the NPA Relief Meeting, and
4 it provided for an NPA split with the boundary
5 approximately along the Palm Beach-Martin County line.
6 The area code life for Area A in this case, excuse me, for
7 Area B (sic) is 3.1 years, and Area A (sic) is 24.6.

8 Alternative 5 was also submitted by the industry
9 at the planning meeting, and it's called a concentrated
10 growth overlay plan. And it has a concentrated growth
11 overlay with the boundary approximately the same as in
12 Alternative Number 4. Area code life for the area in blue
13 in this case is only two years, and the Area B is ten
14 years.

15 Alternative 6 also provided -- that's not the 6
16 I'm talking about right now. I'll talk about that in a
17 minute.

18 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Mr. Foley, could you go back
19 to the one right before that and explain it to me real
20 quick --

21 MR. FOLEY: Yes, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: -- just so I get a better
23 understanding? That is, what, a concentrated growth --

24 MR. FOLEY: That's a concentrated growth overlay
25 over Palm Beach County.

1 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: What that would mean is, we'd
2 go to ten-digit dialing --

3 MR. FOLEY: In Palm Beach County, and the
4 remainder of the Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River
5 counties would remain with seven-digit dialing.

6 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: And why does that last two
7 years? Oh, before you need to drop the area code --

8 MR. FOLEY: Before you need to expand the area
9 code --

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: -- into the Palm Beach area.

11 MR. FOLEY: -- into the Palm Beach area before
12 it runs out of codes. And the relief has to be started
13 earlier in an overlay, a concentrated overlay. That's why
14 the two years.

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Great.

16 MR. FOLEY: The Alternative 6, which we don't
17 have a map for, was also presented at the meeting by the
18 industry, and it was called a Statewide Wireless Only
19 Overlay. And we will talk about what happened to that one
20 in just a minute. But at the meeting, the industry
21 reached consensus on a particular plan, and through their
22 discussions, they eliminated Alternative 4 with a single
23 geographic split simply because of the unbalanced lives.
24 One area code would exhaust much earlier than the other.

25 Next, consensus was reached to eliminate

1 Alternatives 2 and 3, both single geographic splits,
2 because in that case they believed that communities of
3 interest would be divided. And Alternatives 2, 3, and 4
4 were also excluded for the same reasons outlined under the
5 general attributes of an NPA split.

6 Alternative 5, a concentrated growth overlay,
7 was eliminated by consensus for the reasons listed in the
8 attributes of a concentrated growth overlay. And finally,
9 Alternative 6 was eliminated as a statewide wireless
10 overlay because participants were aware that it would
11 violate current FCC rules concerning specific overlays for
12 particular industries, and this was not the proper forum
13 to address this statewide issue.

14 The participants then reached consensus to
15 recommend to the Florida Public Service Commission
16 Alternative 1, which was an all services distributed
17 overlay over the 561 area code. The recommendation, like
18 I said before, was filed July 6th. And as the neutral
19 third-party administrator, NANPA has no independent view
20 regarding the relief option selected by the industry or
21 presented to the Commission.

22 Subsequent to that meeting and subsequent to the
23 filing, the Florida Public Service Commission staff has
24 prepared seven additional alternatives. They numbered
25 them 6 through 12 simply because of the out-of-hand

1 dismissal of Alternative 6 that was presented at the
2 meeting. Alternative 6, presented by the Florida Public
3 Service Commission Staff, is a geographic split and an
4 overlay plan with Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Boynton Beach,
5 and West Palm Beach exchanges. Split from Areas B and C,
6 Area A covers the remaining exchanges. Area code change
7 would be necessary for current subscribers in the area
8 which would be assigned a new NPA code. The approximate
9 exhaust for Area A is about 26 years, and about 14.5 years
10 for Areas B and C.

11 Alternative 7 is a geographic split relief plan
12 with the West Palm Beach exchanges split from Area B.
13 Area A covers the remaining exchanges. The approximate
14 exhaust for Area A is 5.3 years, and 14.7 for the
15 remainder.

16 The next Alternative, Number 8, combines a
17 geographic split and an overlay relief method with the
18 West Palm Beach exchange split from Area B. Some of the
19 NXXs or prefixes will be used as an overlay as indicated
20 in Areas A and B. The approximate exhaust for this
21 overlay is 19 years, and 14.7 years for the split area.

22 Alternative Number 9 is a geographic split
23 relief plan with Port St. Lucie, Jensen Beach, Stuart,
24 Hobe Sound, Jupiter, and West Palm Beach exchanges split
25 from Area B. Area A covers the remaining exchanges. The

1 approximate exhaust for Area A is 10.5 years, and
2 7.4 years for Area B.

3 Alternative 10, again, is a geographic split
4 relief plan with Boynton Beach, Jupiter, and West Palm
5 Beach exchanges split to form Area B. And Area A covers
6 the remaining exchanges. Again, the exhaust for this
7 Area A is 29 years, and 7 years for Area B.

8 The 11th Alternative is an alternative -- is an
9 overlay similar to Alternative 1 but employs number
10 conservation measures. No area code change will be
11 required for current subscribers. Only new customers will
12 use the new area code, and all local calls will be
13 replaced with ten digits. The approximate exhaust for
14 this relief plan is 20 years. Alternative 12 is --

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I'm sorry. Go back to that
16 one. What does that one do? That's a --

17 MR. FOLEY: The only difference between this one
18 and Alternative 1, the distributed overlay, is this one
19 has some form of conservation measured added to it that
20 the Commission is discussing now in another docket.

21 Alternative 12 is a relief plan similar to
22 Alternative 9 but employs, again, number conservation
23 measures. Area code changes would be necessary for
24 current subscribers in the area when it's assigned a new
25 area code. The approximate exhaust with the conservation

1 measures is approximately 21 years for Area A, and
2 14.8 years for Area B. And with that, I think that covers
3 it. Are there any questions?

4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Let's do this: We've got two
5 signed up persons, and you're one of them, I would assume.
6 We've got three now, but why don't we let you go first.
7 You can ask your question, and then you can speak to us.

8 MS. THOMAS: Can I get an answer to my question?

9 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Sure, but we need to get you
10 at a mic before you can ask the question. And please give
11 us your name for the record and identify yourself. And
12 just so you know, before you speak, we are also being
13 transmitted live on the Internet, so people in Bangladesh
14 can actually watch what we are doing here, or are
15 listening to what we are doing. But just give us your
16 name and address for the record, and then you can ask your
17 question and Mr. Foley will answer it, if he can.

18 - - - - -

19 CAROLE THOMAS

20 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
21 State of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as
22 follows:

23 DIRECT STATEMENT

24

25 MS. THOMAS: My name is Carole Thomas, and I

1 live in Lantana, Florida. I am here to represent my
2 employer who is State Representative Sharon Merchant and
3 to mention her wishes in this decision.

4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay.

5 MS. THOMAS: I'm going to need some help because
6 I'm not sure which overlay applies to her wishes.

7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: All right.

8 MS. THOMAS: But first my question. The exhaust
9 in the various areas, does that mean at 14.7 years, or
10 whichever is relegated the exhaust time, that again we'll
11 have to have a new area code at that point? Is that what
12 that means?

13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Correct.

14 MS. THOMAS: Okay.

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Now, before I give that too
16 much credulity -- and I don't blame Mr. Foley because he
17 just started with NeuStar -- the company that does this
18 rarely gets their calculations right. I mean, when we
19 last did the area code change here, they promised us 14
20 years, and we are back in less than three or four. So the
21 usage of area codes and the way they're distributed rarely
22 matches with the calculations. Their calculations are
23 based on a system that is not the same one we're working
24 with today.

25 Of course, the FCC just announced an order that

1 will be finalized at the end of, I believe, this month, if
2 I'm not mistaken, which will give us some better control
3 on how those numbers are distributed. So there is a
4 chance that those numbers may hold or at least be closer
5 to reality, the 14 years or whatever the numbers are on
6 here.

7 MS. THOMAS: I might say personally that I've
8 lived in Palm Beach County for 19 years, and I've had
9 three area codes.

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yeah, that's exactly the point
11 today, and that shouldn't be that way.

12 MS. THOMAS: On to the State Representative's
13 wishes.

14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: By the way, before you say
15 that I want to say, Representative Merchant has followed
16 this issue closely and testified on a particular docket
17 that is associated with this one in terms of number
18 conservation which this Commission ordered a few weeks ago
19 to make sure that we can try to keep the 561 number as
20 long as possible by ordering the company to do number
21 conservation.

22 MS. THOMAS: In addition to that,
23 Representative Merchant has talked to any number of
24 constituents in the four counties, not just in her State
25 Representative's district. So she has talked to lots of

1 constituents in the counties, and here is her observation.
2 She would prefer to see no overlay at all. Then she would
3 prefer to see Palm Beach County have one area code,
4 regardless of which one you choose, and the three northern
5 counties have another area code. So one of those sections
6 could have 561; she doesn't care which one.

7 Now, does that apply to any of these overlays?

8 I'm not sure following the --

9 MR. FOLEY: Yeah.

10 MS. THOMAS: Which one is that? Number 7 does
11 not show all of Palm Beach County in one area.

12 COMMISSIONER DEASON: I believe Alternative 4
13 comes close to that.

14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Let me just say that that one
15 comprehends probably the general area that you were
16 talking about.

17 MS. THOMAS: Okay. And with no overlay; is that
18 correct?

19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Right. This is a geographic
20 split. The only problem we have with this is, if you will
21 notice numbering plan -- Northern American Numbering
22 Council has a series of requirements. It's called NANC.
23 All right. Someday I will get all these things right, but
24 anyway, they have a series of requirements that numbers
25 not last more than 10 to 15 years on the max. And the

1 problem is that on the top end, the three counties to the
2 north there have a life span of 24.6 years, and the one on
3 the bottom has 3.1 years.

4 Now, there are two ways to look at that. If you
5 do a geographic split, in theory we're really not looking
6 at changing the numbers in Palm Beach County. So it
7 shouldn't worry us too much about the 3.1 years because
8 we're not changing their numbers. In essence, they would
9 probably keep their number, so they wouldn't experience an
10 area code change. The problem is, at the top, giving them
11 a new area code in the top area is a little bit long. But
12 this, I don't think is a bad idea, and I think it's
13 probably one of the more workable plans. So we appreciate
14 that input.

15 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I'm just telling you that the
17 top end is a little bit on the high side.

18 MS. THOMAS: Well, I'm afraid I don't quite
19 understand. You mean 24 years is too long to have one
20 area code?

21 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Apparently, that's what the
22 federal government thinks.

23 MR. FOLEY: It's 15 years' difference.

24 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes, it's 15 years'
25 difference, but here's how I see it. When I look at

1 something like this, I think that with the FCC's decision
2 on some -- that has given us some additional authority,
3 this Commission, as well as the order that they're about
4 to issue, I have to assume that if we were to implement
5 number conservation in Palm Beach County, that would
6 increase those numbers, and so they would come close to
7 each other.

8 But the difference between one and the other
9 that Mr. Foley is pointing out that is so huge is not
10 something that the requirements call for. That doesn't
11 worry me a lot because I don't think I'm inconveniencing
12 the people in the south. They don't see any change.

13 MS. THOMAS: Right.

14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: The problem is that the number
15 in the north may last too long. But I think it is a
16 workable plan; it's the one, at least to me. And that's
17 exactly what we want you to speak to when you speak. I
18 mean, I clearly don't expect you all to know the
19 requirements and all those questions. But as a common
20 sense thing, when you look at a geographic split, you look
21 at an area.

22 And for example, here's the question that I
23 would have to you: Is Jupiter more linked to Palm Beach
24 than it is to St. Lucie or Indian River?

25 And I think the natural answer would probably

1 be, yes, that is part of --

2 MS. THOMAS: Yes.

3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: And that's what we look from,
4 from citizens when they testify for representatives when
5 they give us their opinion because it's sort of a
6 community of interest argument. Likewise, when we did
7 this split a while back, we decided that Palm Beach and
8 Ft. Lauderdale was a natural area and a natural boundary,
9 and people would work with that.

10 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you for being here. And
12 again, thank the Representative for her interest in this.

13 Mr. Beck?

14 MR. BECK: Chairman, the next witness is
15 Gwynne Gonzales.

16 - - - - -

17 GWYNNE GONZALES

18 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
19 state of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as
20 follows:

21 DIRECT STATEMENT

22 MS. GONZALES: Hello. My name is
23 Gwynne Gonzales, and I am here as a representative of
24 State Representative Ron Klein and his wishes. In
25 speaking with him yesterday, and as she mentioned, my boss

1 has also been speaking with his constituents throughout
2 Palm Beach County. And he is in agreement with
3 Alternative 4 also, and he basically just wanted to go on
4 the record. He has also been following this very closely
5 and would like to see Palm Beach County keep its 561 area
6 code and not go to ten-digit dialing.

7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Again, and just for the
8 record, fortunately or unfortunately representatives tend
9 to call my office, and Representative Klein has been
10 following this issue very closely. And we appreciate him
11 and his input on this issue.

12 MS. GONZALES: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you very much.

14 MR. BECK: The next witness is Patrick Miller.

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: As a general rule, and before
16 Mr. Miller begins, I just -- when Mr. Foley makes the
17 presentation under the assertion that no one's numbers
18 would change with concentrated overlay, he's alluding to
19 the fact that you keep your area code, that nothing
20 changes, and he did express it. But what the
21 Representatives' representatives didn't tell you is that
22 that means ten-digit dialing. And I used to have a
23 promising political career in south Florida until we did
24 ten-digit dialing down there. It's not very popular with
25 residents. It can be a bit confusing in the short term.

1 Go right ahead.

2

- - - - -

3

PATRICK MILLER

4 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
5 State of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as
6 follows:

7

DIRECT STATEMENT

8 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Garcia. My name is
9 Patrick Miller. I'm the deputy county administrator for
10 Palm Beach County. I'm here on behalf of Mr. Weiseman,
11 the county administrator, Chair Maude Ford Lee and the
12 County Commission. Commissioner McCarty was supposed to
13 appear, but she, like you, is in a hearing right now
14 across the street for zoning. It's going to sound like a
15 concert. Along with Representative Klein and
16 Sharon Merchant, we too are looking at your Alternative 4,
17 I believe it is. I'm sorry. I was looking at 5. I'm
18 sorry. Alternative 4.

19 They did this in a regular session with an
20 entire Commission. As Sharon Merchant has said, if you do
21 this, we would like one area code, preferably 561, but we
22 would like one and see it stay to a geographic split. The
23 County understands your plight. We have been trying to
24 cooperate with the local agency in returning numbers, and
25 to the best of our ability, in concentrating argues. I

1 know that this is only a 3.1 year split here for us, and I
2 realize that you pointed out, Mr. Chair, that they don't
3 like the 24.6 out, but I would tell you that our staff and
4 our County Commission would gladly work with you in trying
5 to find an alternative.

6 Mr. Foley, my question is, when you said -- when
7 you give these splits, are these in addition to your
8 2002 date that you stated earlier? During your
9 presentation, you said there was an exhaust time of 2002.
10 I think we're on this geographic one.

11 MR. FOLEY: The exhaust date of 2002 is the
12 exhaust date with rationing right now for the 561 area
13 code. The extended life of these areas, the 24.6 or the
14 3.1 years, is from that date of exhaust.

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: So it adds a little bit more.

16 MR. MILLER: We would have a little -- three
17 more years on top of 2002 in Palm Beach County. During
18 that time, I think we could work with you, especially I
19 would like Mr. Foley or somebody on behalf of the
20 Commission. Maybe we could have them come down to make a
21 presentation, and you can seek our help with you. I know
22 it's a large job you face, so I would offer that to you.

23 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Let me ask you a quick
24 question that Staff sort of pointed out to me, and maybe
25 you could be of help. One of the things that Staff came

1 up with or this Commission came up with is, when we
2 were -- and I don't think we've got -- generally on these
3 things, we sometimes have a bigger map. Yeah, here it is.

4 If you'll go to the third page, or I'm sorry,
5 Page 5 of the Special Report, you'll notice that -- and I
6 think it's -- it's not delineated here very well, but what
7 the Staff did is, they came up with a costal. 941, if
8 you'll look to the bottom or to the southern west coast of
9 the State. Oh, there it is. On the board it's easy to
10 see. 941 follows the coast, and 863 is a more rural area
11 code.

12 And so coming back to 561, if you'll look at --
13 I think this might have been what Staff was trying to
14 catch -- if you'll look at Page 15, which is Plan 9. And
15 I think what Staff was trying to do there is capture what
16 is the more populated beach zones, and then leave the sort
17 of more rural areas. And I don't know if some people
18 would be upset if I refer to those areas as rural, just
19 not sort of -- I think that's sort of more like a beach
20 resort.

21 MR. MILLER: Nonurban.

22 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yeah, nonurban. How is that?
23 That's better than "rural." You've obviously been in
24 government longer than I have. So is that workable for
25 you? Does that seem like a --

1 MR. MILLER: I can't answer on behalf of the
2 Board. As I said, we --

3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Just on a personal basis in
4 terms of being --

5 MR. MILLER: It just might, but I can't say that
6 it will on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.
7 I'm sort of here with my direction, as aides are always,
8 as you know.

9 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I understand.

10 MR. MILLER: Again, I would extend our offer to
11 work with you if you would allow just one short-time split
12 and see what would happen in the future. One of the
13 things we did not talk about, and I will give you an
14 observation as a staff member, is though the split on
15 Number 4, you were talking about the 24.6, we know there
16 is phenomenal growth to our north, and I don't whether
17 they have had the opportunity to take that into
18 consideration --

19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Probably not.

20 MR. MILLER: -- because that might bring that
21 down. Where our growth may be out there, but I think
22 we've got a little bit of better management on our growth
23 rate.

24 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: If I'm not mistaken, the
25 Port St. Lucie, Jensen Beach area is one of the fastest

1 growing areas in the State, right?

2 MR. MILLER: Yes, that's what I understand right
3 now.

4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: All right.

5 MR. MILLER: One of the things my Staff asked me
6 to point out to you is, the County has actively supported
7 the telephone companies in their request to review and
8 return to the pool of available numbers currently issued
9 in blocks. The County has identify over 6,000 numbers to
10 be returned for general public use. So that helps you out
11 a little bit. We would, again, on behalf of our Board
12 respectfully request that you retain 561, either area
13 code, one area code for Palm Beach County.

14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Just so you know, the full
15 Commission ordered the companies to do a series of things
16 which they say they can't do, and so we are locked in in
17 that position right now. But what we were hoping, and
18 what the Staff's plan was, is by ordering that, it did
19 precisely extend the life. We got some concentration that
20 was voted out by the full Commission up to two to three
21 weeks ago, if I'm not mistaken. The order was issued
22 earlier this week. So I think that -- I think we may be
23 able to do something more about it. We don't change
24 numbers for a little while, but that is a --

25 MR. MILLER: This along with the 2002 date, as

1 we've discussed, would give us the time to work together.
2 Thank you very much.

3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you. I believe those
4 are the three that I swore in, and I think there are some
5 additional that wish to speak. Does anyone else wish to
6 speak?

7 MS. THOMAS: Can I come back?

8 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Absolutely. We'll stay here
9 all day. You get to talk about anything you want.

10 MS. THOMAS: Forgive me for not bringing this up
11 the first time. I noticed in your report that you plan to
12 make a decision in August.

13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Right.

14 MS. THOMAS: Can that be delayed? One of the
15 things the Representative said to me is, she believes
16 there's some new technology coming out in the industry,
17 and the industry itself may prefer a delay until at least
18 the end of the year because there are other things that
19 can be done. I have no idea what they are.

20 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: What that is, is there is a
21 new software that is coming out, that will be out in
22 December or October, according to the estimates, and that
23 software allows the companies to begin the pool. What
24 this Commission ordered was, is that we believe that -- we
25 know that there is existing software that the company

1 doesn't want to use because they want to wait until that
2 new software comes out, so that we can preserve these
3 numbers for a little bit longer. If we act now, we think
4 we get a better -- we get to keep your number for a longer
5 period of time. If we wait until the end of the year, we
6 lose a little bit of that buffer, you know, because every
7 month they have got to give out more and more numbers.
8 But that being the case, both of those things are being
9 looked at, and Staff is looking at that as part of the
10 solution here, which is -- what are the terms used --
11 number conservation for this docket or this area code.
12 Okay. Very good.

13 Commissioners, do you want to say anything?

14 COMMISSIONER DEASON: The only thing I would say
15 is that we appreciate people coming out, and I think we
16 need to reiterate that there are other means that the
17 public can communicate with us. And if this hearing is
18 covered in the press, perhaps it could be mentioned that
19 if there are people that read about this and they want to
20 contact the Commission, there are other ways that the
21 public can contact us. They are listed on the first page
22 of our Special Report, and that we encourage that
23 participation.

24 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: The only other point I
25 would make is, as this evolves, we are hoping that there

1 will be iterations of those exhaust dates. As we can see
2 some these measures, these conservation measures
3 implemented, I would hope that you would stay in touch and
4 aware of what's going on, particularly with this area
5 code, and know exactly where we stand before we make a
6 decision. And I'm sure that we'll do that. The Staff
7 will -- Levent is very good about that. We'll make sure
8 you're aware of exactly where we stand before we make a
9 decision.

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Let me also -- Staff can
11 tell -- Counsel, could you tell us when the actual
12 technical hearing will be? There is a technical hearing
13 where all the companies come in, and they explain to us in
14 engineering terms what we were talking about today in
15 human terms. And that is --

16 MS. CLEMONS: The technical hearing is May 18th
17 through the 19th.

18 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: All right. On May 18th
19 through the 19th, this area code, as well as the 904 area
20 code and the 945 area code, will be discussed, right?
21 This is all one docket? And --

22 MS. CLEMONS: And 305.

23 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: -- 305. They are all together
24 at the same time. And you can listen in to that, and of
25 course, you can participate by that. And then you've got

1 the final dates on this, which are -- it will be voted on
2 on August --

3 MR. ILERI: August 15th.

4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: -- August 15th. And so with
5 that, if there are no further questions, we're here and
6 we're available to talk to you if you have any questions.
7 We are going to -- I guess we're recessing this hearing,
8 the hearing at this time, and we will reconvene right here
9 at 2:00 for any additional information. Was it two
10 hearings or --

11 MS. CLEMONS: Two hearings today, 2:00.

12 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: 2:00. Yes. So we are going
13 to recess this one, and we will open up another hearing at
14 2:00. So if you've got a friend that is always
15 complaining about this, this is where you need to send
16 them. Thank you very much.

17 - - - - -

18 (The morning session of the service hearing
19 ended at 10:35 a.m. And the afternoon session commenced
20 at 2:00 p.m. at the same location.)

21 - - - - -

22 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Good afternoon. We are going
23 to reconvene this hearing. I'll have the counsel read the
24 notice again.

25 MS. CLEMONS: Pursuant to notice, this time and

1 place has been set for hearing in Docket Number 990456-TL,
2 request for review of proposed numbering relief plan for
3 the 561 area code.

4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Very good. We are going to --
5 we're hear to listen to you and your concerns about the
6 area codes and how we should do them. I believe there are
7 two persons here to speak. And so we are going to have
8 Mr. Foley do a very brief summary of the plans that are
9 contained within this yellow sheet just so you have an
10 understanding, and then we'll hear from you. So why don't
11 we go ahead and start, Mr. Foley, and then we'll go to
12 that.

13 MR. FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a brief
14 summary of the plans provided, and these are in the yellow
15 handout that you picked up at the door, the
16 first alternative is an overlay relief plan in which a
17 single area code is added to the same geographic area, the
18 existing 561 area. There are -- no area code changes will
19 be required for current customers; however, ten-digit
20 dialing will be required.

21 The second alternative is a geographic split
22 also, and it's a relief plan with Stuart, Hobe Sound,
23 Jupiter, West Palm Beach exchanges in Area B. Area A
24 covers the remaining exchanges in the existing 561 area.
25 The exhaust period is about 8 years for Area A, and

1 9.5 years for Area B.

2 Alternative 3, again, is a geographic split plan
3 and includes Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, and West Palm
4 Beach exchanges. And those are split from Area B. Area A
5 covers the remaining exchanges. The approximate exhaust
6 period for Area A is 9.5 years, and 8.1 years for Area B.

7 Alternative 4, again, is a geographic split area
8 with Jupiter, Pahokee, Belle Glade, Boynton Beach, Delray
9 Beach, Boca, and West Palm exchanges split to form Area B.
10 Area A covers the remaining exchanges. The approximate
11 exhaust is 24.6 years for the yellow Area A, and 3.1 years
12 for Area B.

13 The fifth alternative presented provides a split
14 overlay relief method with a similar split found to
15 Alternative 4, but with a concentrated growth overlay
16 deployed over the blue area. The approximate exhaust is
17 10 years for Area A, and 2 years for Area B.

18 Alternative 6 is a geographic split and an
19 overlay combined with Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Boynton
20 Beach, and West Palm Beach exchanges split to form Areas B
21 and C. Area A covers the remaining exchanges. Area code
22 changes would be necessary for current subscribers in the
23 area which will be assigned a new NPA or area code. The
24 approximate exhaust is 26 years for Area A; 14 years for
25 Areas B and C.

1 Next is Alternative 7. It, again, is a
2 geographic split with Palm Beach exchanges split to form
3 Area B. Area A covers the remaining exchanges in the 561
4 NPA or area code. The approximate exhaust for Area A is
5 5.3 years, and 14.7 years for Area B.

6 The next alternative, Number 9, again, is a
7 geographic split plan with Port St. Lucie, Jensen Beach,
8 Stuart, Hobe Sound, Jupiter, and West Palm exchanges split
9 to form Area B. Area A covers, again, the remaining
10 exchanges of the 561 area code. The approximate exhaust
11 for Area A is 10.5 years, and about 7.5 years for Area B.

12 Alternative 10, again, is a geographic split
13 with Boynton Beach, Jupiter, and West Palm exchanges split
14 to form Area B, the blue area. Area A covers the
15 remaining exchanges. The approximate exhaust for Area A
16 is 29 years, and 7.7 years for the remaining Area B.

17 The next alternative is Alternative
18 Number 11 and is very similar to Alternative 1, the
19 overlay, but employs number conservation measures. Okay.
20 No area code change, again, will be required for any
21 current subscribers and only new customers will get the
22 new area code. All local calls will have to be dialed
23 ten digits, and the life of this with the conservation
24 measures is estimated by the Staff to be 20 years.

25 Alternative 12, the last alternative in the

1 pamphlet, is again a split relief plan similar to
2 Alternative 9 but employs number conservation measures.
3 Area code changes would be necessary for current
4 subscribers in the area that receives the new area code.
5 And the approximate exhaust for this is 21 years for
6 Area A, and 14.8 years for Area B.

7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. Foley. We're
8 going to now swear in those of you who are here to speak.
9 So if you could, please rise and raise your right hand.

10 (Witnesses collectively sworn.)

11 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Great. Mr. Beck is here
12 representing Jack Shreve, public counsel for the state of
13 Florida, and he is your attorney here. He is representing
14 you, and he'll be calling the witnesses.

15 MR. BECK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have two
16 witnesses who have signed up ahead of time. The
17 first witness is Olga Gidion. Could you come up to the
18 microphone?

19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Ms. Gidion, if I could just
20 have your name and where you live, and then go ahead and
21 tell us -- and then go ahead and speak.

22 - - - - -

23 OLGA GIDION

24 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
25 state of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as

1 follows:

2 DIRECT STATEMENT

3 MS. GIDION: My name is Olga Wallace Gidion. I
4 live at 1458 Eighth Street, West Palm Beach, Florida
5 33401. I'm not causing us all these changes and proposals
6 that are here. My concern is that I've gone through area
7 code 305, 407, and now 561. And whatever you all decide
8 to do, I really would like to keep 561. And you mentioned
9 that I might be able to keep it, but the new people may
10 have to have a ten-digit number.

11 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: No, everybody would get --
12 what would happened is, if we don't change the area code
13 where you're in, you get 561, but we decide to keep
14 everyone's number the same, what would happen -- there's a
15 good possibility we would be going to ten-digit dialing,
16 which would mean that you would keep whatever number you
17 have now, but you'd always have to dial 561 before you
18 began your phone call, even on local calls, not long
19 distance. Obviously, long distance you always use your
20 area code, but just on all local calls, and the new people
21 would probably get the new area code.

22 MS. GIDION: This appears difficult to me. What
23 about cities like New York City and other metropolitan
24 areas? Do they have to go through this? And I have
25 family up there with 212, and for 25, 30 years, I've been

1 calling that. So I really would like for you all to
2 consider and keep the plan the way it is. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Thank you very much.

4 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: I can assure you,
5 Ms. Gidion, that the larger cities have, indeed, gone
6 through this, but your relatives probably have escaped
7 this, though.

8 MR. BECK: Our next witness is Robert Zelazny.

9

- - - - -

10

ROBERT ZELAZNY

11 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
12 state of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as
13 follows:

14

DIRECT STATEMENT

15 MR. ZELAZNY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I'm
16 Bob Zelazny. I'm the director of communications for
17 Palm Beach County. First, let me say how much I
18 appreciate Mr. Foley's presentation earlier this morning
19 and the side bar conversation with him and members of the
20 Commission. And that's exactly why I'm here this
21 afternoon, and that's really to enter into the record part
22 of our conversation that followed this morning's session.

23

24

25

As you remember from this morning's session,
Mr. Pat Miller stated that the Board of County
Commissioners for Palm Beach County desire to retain one

1 area code for Palm Beach County even if that meant only
2 extending the life of the area code out for an additional
3 3.1 years, which is basically Alternative 4.

4 In our discussions after the session, other
5 options were discussion in some detail, and I felt that
6 some facts should be presented to support the County's
7 position, as well as information that is relevant to the
8 other options or alternatives that were offered. To
9 support Alternative 4, I believe it is important for you
10 to be provided with some facts when considering your
11 decision. And this first fact really addresses the
12 statistics that you use in determining the exhaust date.
13 Palm Beach County currently has a population of
14 1.06 million with a sustained growth of approximately
15 20,000 individuals per year projected through 2005.

16 While I do not have the statistics available for
17 Martin and St. Lucie counties, it is widely accepted that
18 they are growing at a considerably higher rate. And this
19 might impact the numbers presented for the exhaust period
20 earlier.

21 And now, secondly, while the Alternative 4 is
22 the desired alternative from this morning's testimony, I
23 might suggest that if we implemented the conservation
24 measures, the exhaust period for Palm Beach County could
25 hypothetically extend out another six to seven years. I

1 would point out that Alternative 1, which is the overlay,
2 will be exhausted in 8.8 years. And if we look at
3 Alternative 4 with the conservation measures, we could be
4 out at least six to seven years. And that's not counting
5 the stuff that BellSouth is already doing in policing
6 themselves. As Mr. Miller has mentioned, the County gave
7 back over 6,000 numbers themselves.

8 And now, I must clarify for the next part of my
9 testimony that the next part has not been through the
10 Board of County Commissioners but are my own observations
11 as a member of the Staff, but I will ensure that the Board
12 of County Commissioners has a chance to formally provide
13 you with a position on these following points before your
14 May session.

15 As to the costal alternative that was discussed
16 off-line, it certainly is an option and should be pursued,
17 but it would be imperative to include all the cities and
18 the municipalities along the coast in the same area code.
19 Under no circumstances should we separate the County north
20 and south. Again, this has not been through the Board of
21 County Commissioners, but I believe it to be their
22 position. We must not separate the County north and
23 south. Also, in any of the proposals, I believe that we
24 need to understand that the City of Jupiter is an integral
25 part of Palm Beach County and, if at all possible, be

1 included in the Palm Beach County area code because their
2 association is really primarily with Palm Beach County and
3 not Martin County.

4 And lastly, if the solution cannot accommodate a
5 county-wide solution, consideration should be given to the
6 inclusion of the western part of the County in the new
7 interior area code, which we discussed off-line, as this
8 might alleviate some of the pressure on the 561 area code.
9 We would start --

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I lost you there.

11 MR. ZELAZNY: We had talked earlier off-line,
12 sir, about the new area code that was developed for the
13 interior part of the State. If I just look at the thing,
14 it's probably 863.

15 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Right.

16 MR. ZELAZNY: I was just offering that that may
17 be -- that if we have to split the County, it might be
18 better to split it along the 20-mile bend line and moving
19 those western portions of the County over to that interior
20 code. Again, this might allow us to extend our exhaust
21 period out.

22 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: You might get conflicting NXXs
23 there too, which I doubt we've checked on.

24 MR. ZELAZNY: Again, sir, I thank you for your
25 consideration and opportunity to address the Commission.

1 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Let me ask you, since you've
2 here already deviated from the County's position, a quick
3 question. You'll probably --

4 MR. ZELAZNY: No, not really, sir.

5 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. You just added to it.

6 MR. ZELAZNY: What we wanted to do was to
7 provide additional information for your consideration as
8 you developed the options.

9 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Let me just ask you,
10 you talked about Jupiter, which you'll notice on Plan 4,
11 there's a little section under Hobe Sound. I don't know
12 what that is -- you probably do -- which is part of the
13 Jupiter -- is that -- do you know what part of the --

14 MR. ZELAZNY: I cannot speak specifically to
15 that geographic area what that is.

16 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Thank you. I'll ask
17 BellSouth to address it just so I can understand what that
18 is. All right. Great. Thank you. I appreciate the
19 added comments.

20 MR. ZELAZNY: So I think if you'll notice just
21 the difference between Alternative 4 and 5 and
22 Alternative 7. If you see, 7 has redefined the lines
23 south of Jupiter --

24 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Right.

25 MR. ZELAZNY: -- and we would just want Jupiter

1 included in the Palm Beach County.

2 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Great. I'm going to
3 need to swear you in.

4 - - - - -

5 SID POE

6 was called as a witness on behalf of the Citizens of the
7 state of Florida and, having been duly sworn, testified as
8 follows:

9 DIRECT STATEMENT

10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Great. Identify yourself for
11 the record.

12 MR. POE: For the record, my name is Sid Poe.
13 I'm a regional manager for BellSouth here in Palm Beach
14 County. Referring to your map, the Jupiter exchange
15 actually stretches into the very southern tip of
16 Martin County. For your information, the very southern
17 tip of our County is essentially residential with a little
18 bit of small business in that area.

19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Perfect. So then it
20 fits naturally in the Palm Beach -- their center of
21 interest.

22 MR. POE: Well, the interesting thing about that
23 piece of Martin County is, there is really no place to
24 shop or anything down there, so they would gravitate to
25 Jupiter. But I can tell you there is interest in -- I

1 spent 12 and a half years up there. I can tell you there
2 is interest in the fact that it's a short long-distance
3 call to their own county government in Stuart. So chances
4 are there would be a good chance of there being not a lot
5 of resistance to being served a Martin County exchange as
6 opposed to -- see, that's not really within the boundaries
7 of the city of Jupiter, Jupiter exchange. Jupiter is
8 actually a little south on the map.

9 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: But it falls into the
10 Jupiter -- we couldn't separate it for your purposes.
11 Your central office serves both sides?

12 MR. POE: No. Jupiter --

13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Is one?

14 MR. POE: -- exchange serves that piece of
15 Martin County, as well as the northern tip of Palm Beach
16 County. Did that answer your question?

17 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yeah.

18 MR. POE: Okay. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Except you might want to just
20 ask a little bit about that in terms of maybe asking some
21 of the local people there what the issues are in terms of
22 the short long-distance.

23 Okay. Great. Is there anyone else to speak?

24 MR. ZELAZNY: I'm sorry, sir?

25 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: No. I'm just asking is there

1 any other comments or anything else? If not we are --

2 MR. ZELAZNY: I just want to make sure --

3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: You need to come to the mic
4 because our court reporter will kill me.

5 MR. ZELAZNY: Sir, I just wanted to make sure to
6 clarify that I am not deviating from the County's
7 position. These are alternatives for you to consider as
8 you develop other proposals or issues for your discussion.

9 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Certainly. And I apologize.
10 I am a poor lawyer because I am never precise with my
11 words.

12 MR. ZELAZNY: That's fine, sir. I just wanted
13 to make sure, you know. I have to get paid.

14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: All right. And on that note,
15 we are adjourned. We will convene again tomorrow in the
16 St. Lucie County Commission Chambers at 10:00 a.m., and
17 another hearing at 2:00 p.m. Thank you. Oh, tomorrow is
18 just one, I'm sorry, at 10:00 a.m.

19 (Hearing concluded at 2:20 p.m.)

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STATE OF FLORIDA)

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

COUNTY OF LEON)

I, TRICIA DeMARTE, Official FPSC Commission Reporter, do hereby certify that the W. Palm Beach Service Hearing in Docket No. 990456-TP was heard by the Florida Public Service Commission at the time and place herein stated.

It is further certified that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript, consisting of 45 pages, constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this THIS 5TH DAY OF APRIL, 2000.

Tricia DeMarte
TRICIA DeMARTE
FPSC Official Commission Reporter
(850) 413-6736