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ORIGINAL

April 21, 2000

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 990517-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above docket are the original and fifteen (15) copies of Northeast's Prehearing Statement.

Also enclosed is a diskette containing the above Prehearing Statement originally typed in Microsoft Word 97 format, which has been saved in Rich Text format for use with Word Perfect.

Please acknowledge receipt and filing of the above by stamping the duplicate copy of this letter and returning the same to this writer.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


J. Jeffrey Wahlen

JJW/csd

Enclosures

cc: All Parties of Record

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In re: Request for Review of Proposed
Numbering Plan for the 904 Area Code

DOCKET NO. 990517-TL
FILED: April 21, 2000

NORTHEAST'S PREHEARING STATEMENT

Northeast Florida Telephone Company ("NEFTC" or the "Company"), pursuant to Order No. PSC-99-2145-TL, submits the following Prehearing Statement:

A. WITNESS: Northeast has filed and will sponsor the direct testimony of Deborah J. Nobles, who will testify on all issues. Northeast reserves the right to file rebuttal testimony after it reviews Staff's direct testimony.

B. EXHIBITS: Northeast did not pre-file any exhibits, but reserves the right to use exhibits submitted by others during cross-examination.

C. BASIC POSITION: Northeast supports Alternative 1, which is an all services distributed overlay and was the consensus recommendation of the industry. If the Commission declines to adopt Alternative 1, Northeast recommends Alternative 6, modified to include Baker County in Area A.

D-G. ISSUES AND POSITIONS:

Issue 1a: Should the Commission approve the industry's consensus relief plans for the following area codes:

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: Yes.

Issue 1b: If the Commission does not approve the industry’s consensus relief plan, what alternative plans should be approved for the following area codes:

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: If the Commission declines to adopt Alternative 1, Northeast recommends Alternative 6, modified to include Baker County in Area A.

Issue 2a: What number conservation measure(s), if any, should be implemented for the following area costs:

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: Northeast supports the number conservation measures recently adopted by the Florida Public Service Commission in Docket No. 981444-TP. Number pooling appears to provide an opportunity for extending the life of the 904 area code by a few years. To implement number pooling in the 904 area code, software release 3.0 should be used and should be limited to Local Number Portability (LNP) capable central offices.

Issue 2b: If conservation measures are to be implemented, when should they be implemented?

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: The Commission should allow a reasonable time for the implementation of any number conservation measures, and they should only be applied prospectively.

Issue 3: What should be the dialing pattern for local, toll, EAS, and ECS calls for the following area codes:

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: If the industry recommendation is adopted, 10 digit dialing would be required for local, EAS and ECS calls, and 1 plus 10 digit dialing would be required for toll calls.

Issue 4: What is the appropriate relief plan implementation schedule for the following area codes:

A) – C) Northeast is not a party in the 305, 561 and 954 cases, so it has no position.

D) 904

Position: Once the FPSC approves the recommended relief plan, NANPA can assign the new NPA within 14 days. The transitional dialing period, which permits customers to dial service on ten digits, should begin 90 days after the NPA is assigned and should continue for 180 days.

H. STIPULATIONS: The Company is not aware of any pending stipulations at this time.

I. PENDING MOTIONS: Except for Staff’s Motion to File Direct Testimony Out of Time, the Company is not aware of any pending motions at this time.

J. COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER ON PREHEARING PROCEDURE: The Company does not know of any requirement of the Order on Prehearing Procedure with which it cannot comply.

Respectfully submitted this 21st day of April, 2000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wahlen", written over a horizontal line.

J. JEFFRY WAHLEN
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ATTORNEYS FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA
TELEPHONE COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U. S. Mail or hand delivery (*) this 21st day of April, 2000, to the following:

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