

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by GTE Florida Incorporated (n/k/a Verizon Florida Inc.) for approval of amendment to existing interconnection agreement with BellSouth Cellular Corp.

DOCKET NO. 000947-TP
ORDER NO. PSC-00-1848-FOF-TP
ISSUED: October 10, 2000

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ

ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT TO EXISTING
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 25, 2000, Verizon Florida, Inc. (f/k/a GTE Florida Incorporated) (Verizon Florida) and BellSouth Cellular Corp. (BellSouth Cellular) filed a request for approval of an amendment to the existing interconnection agreement, between GTE Florida Incorporated (n/k/a Verizon Florida) and BellSouth Cellular, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). The amendment to the existing agreement is incorporated by reference herein. A copy of the amendment to the existing agreement may be obtained by contacting our Division of Records and Reporting.

Both the Act and Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, encourage parties to enter into negotiated agreements to bring about local exchange competition as quickly as possible. Under the requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e), negotiated agreements must be submitted to the state commission for approval. Section 252(e)(4) requires the state to reject or approve the agreement within 90 days after submission or it shall be deemed approved.

The existing agreement governs the relationship between the companies regarding local interconnection and the exchange of traffic pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251. Under 47 U.S.C. § 252(a)(1),

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the agreement shall include a detailed schedule of itemized charges for interconnection and each service or network element included in the agreement.

Upon review of the proposed amendment to the existing agreement, we believe that it complies with the Act; thus, we hereby approve it. Verizon Florida and BellSouth Cellular are also required to file any subsequent supplements or modifications to their agreement with the Commission for review under the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). We note that BellSouth Cellular does not currently hold a Florida certificate to provide alternative local exchange telecommunications service, and therefore, it cannot provide land-line services under this agreement until it obtains an alternative local exchange telecommunications services certificate from this Commission.


Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the amendment to the existing interconnection agreement between Verizon Florida, Inc. (f/k/a GTE Florida Incorporated) and BellSouth Cellular Corp., is incorporated by reference in this Order, and is hereby approved. A copy of the amendment to the existing agreement may be obtained as specified in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that any supplements or modifications to this agreement must be filed with the Commission for review under the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). It is further

ORDERED that this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 10th day of October, 2000.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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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 in Federal district court pursuant to the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(6).