



City of Punta Gorda, Florida **ORIGINAL**

CITY HALL  
326 WEST MARION AVENUE  
PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA 33950-4492

February 1, 2001

By Overnight UPS

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

01 FEB -2 11 9:38  
MAIL ROOM

RE: Docket No. 000604-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing are an original and fifteen copies of the Pre-filed Direct Testimony of Bill Wishard on behalf of the City of Punta Gorda, a Municipal Corporation.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. Berntsson  
City Attorney

RHB/ps  
docket 000604tl ltr.wpd

Enclosure

- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMP \_\_\_\_\_
- COM STB
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- ECR \_\_\_\_\_
- LEG I
- OPC \_\_\_\_\_
- PAI \_\_\_\_\_
- RGO \_\_\_\_\_
- SEC I
- SER \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

In Beautiful Charlotte County

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

01522 FEB-25

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE  
DOCKET NO. 000604-TL**

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Pre-Filed Direct Testimony has been served by U.S. Mail on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2001, to the following:

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PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF  
BILL WISHARD  
BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
ON BEHALF OF  
CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.  
DOCKET NO. 000604-TL

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
01522 FEB-25  
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

1       **Q.    Please state your name and your business address for the record.**

2       A.    Bill Wishard, City of Punta Gorda, City Hall 326 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda,  
3       Florida.

4       **Q.    What is your position with the City and how long have you been with the City?**

5       A.    I am the Administrative Services Director and have been with the City for 2 years.  
6       I am also a graduate of Leadership Charlotte & Leadership Southwest Florida, and  
7       past President for Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce.

8       **Q.    Docket 000604-TL is before the Florida Public Service Commission to review**  
9       **the proposed numbering plan relief for area code 941. The 941 NPA Relief**  
10       **Alternatives contains several alternatives including a geographic split “Punta**  
11       **Gorda South” as well as an overlay alternative. Does the City have any**  
12       **concerns about this proposed relief plan?**

13       A.    Splitting the area code within Charlotte County would significantly alter our sense  
14       of community. Notable progress has been made to bring together all the geographic  
15       areas of Charlotte County. To mark a river or a road as a cut-off point for the area  
16       code would be a man-made barrier which could cripple out community.  
17       Charlotte County is positioning itself throughout the United States through the  
18       marketing efforts of the Chamber, Visitors Bureau, Economic Development Council  
19       and the Airport Authority. The material sent is inclusive and describes the entire  
20       community. Imagine the confusion as potential new residents, visitors or businesses  
21       have to utilize two different area codes to contact one County.  
22       In addition, there is a substantial expense and inconvenience to both businesses and  
23       residents who would have to change their printed material.

1       **Q.    If the Commission were to consider alternatives to the ones proposed, would**  
2       **you have any recommendations?**

3       A.    Yes. The Public Service Commission should look at the possibility of adding more  
4       area codes, rather than changing the area codes so often.

5       **Q.    Does this conclude your testimony?**

6       A.    Yes, it does.

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