

## City of Punta Gorda, Florida

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



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.

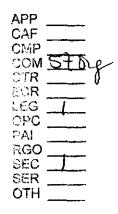
Please feel free to contact the undersigned with any questions or comments.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. Berntsson City Attorney

RHB/ps docket 000604tl ltr.wpd

Enclosure



In Beautiful Charlotte County

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

0 +522 VFEB -2 5 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 15% day of February, 2001, to the following:

Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P. Peter M. Dunbar, Esq. Karen M. Camechis, Esq. Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell & Dunbar, P.A. P.O. Box 10095 Tallahassee, FL 32302

Florida Cable Telecommunications Association, Inc. Michael A. Gross 310 N. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

Ms. Beverly Y. Menard Mr. David Christian GTE Florida, Inc. 106 East College Ave., Ste. 810 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Messer Law Firm Floyd Self P.O. Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302

James A. Minix, Esq. Manatee County Attorney Office P.O. Box 1000 Bradenton, FL 34206 Kathleen F. Schneider, Esq. Sarasota County Attorney 1660 Ringling Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. Sarasota, FL 34236

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Sprint-Florida, Inc. Charles Rehwinkel, Esq. Susan Masterton, Esq. (MCFLTLHO0107) P.O. Box 2214 Tallahassee, FL 32316

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GTE Florida, Inc. Kimberly Caswell, Esq. P.O. Box 110 FLTC0007 Tampa, FL 33601 Thomas C. Foley, NPA Relief Planner NeuStar, Inc. 820 Riverbend Blvd. Longwood, FL 32779

Homer A. Smith 2241 Bayview Road Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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Lee Fordham, Esq. Florida Public Service Comm. 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399

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ROBERT H. BERNTSSON City Attorney

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10	PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY
11	OF
12	BILL WISHARD
13	BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
14	ON BEHALF OF
15	CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.
16	DOCKET NO. 000604-TL
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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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Q.

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

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

What is your position with the City and how long have you been with the City?

- A. I am the Administrative Services Director and have been with the City for 2 years.
  I am also a graduate of Leadership Charlotte & Leadership Southwest Florida, and
  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?
- A. Splitting the area code within Charlotte County would significantly alter our sense of community. Notable progress has been made to bring together all the geographic areas of Charlotte County. To mark a river or a road as a cut-off point for the area 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.
- In addition, there is a substantial expense and inconvenience to both businesses and
   residents who would have to change their printed material.

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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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