

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO: 040451-TP

IN RE: PETITION BY CITIZENS OF FLORIDA TO INITIATE RULEMAKING THAT WOULD REQUIRE LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES TO PROVIDE LIFELINE SERVICE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF CERTIFICATION.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT

TO

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

ISSUED: July 27, 2004

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 120.54, Florida Statutes, that the Florida Public Service Commission has initiated the development of Rule 25-4.0665, Florida Administrative Code, to adopt provisions relating to the implementation of Lifeline service.

The attached Notice of Proposed Rule Development will appear in the July 30, 2004, edition of the Florida Administrative Weekly. A staff rule development workshop will be held at the following time and place:

Florida Public Service Commission
9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 19, 2004
Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 152
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

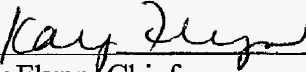
A copy of the agenda for the workshop is attached to this notice. Any person requiring some accommodation at this workshop because of a physical impairment should call the Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services at (850) 413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at: 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
08141 JUL 27 3
FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

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By DIRECTION of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 27th day of July,
2004.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services



Kay Flynn, Chief
Bureau of Records

(S E A L)

SMC

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO: 040451-TP

RULE TITLE:	RULE NO.:
Lifeline Service	25-4.0665

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: To establish a time period for local exchange telecommunications companies to begin providing Lifeline service to customers after receiving the certification of eligibility from the Office of Public Counsel, as well as to address other issues surrounding the implementation of Lifeline service.

SUBJECT AREA TO BE ADDRESSED: Lifeline service

SPECIFIC AUTHORITY: 350.127, F.S.

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 364.10, F.S.

A RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD AT THE TIME, DATE, AND PLACE SHOWN BELOW:

TIME AND DATE: 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 19, 2004

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 152, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida

Any person requiring some accommodation at this workshop because of a physical impairment should call the Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services at (850) 413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at: 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

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THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE

DEVELOPMENT IS: Samantha Cibula, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0862, (850) 413-6202.

THE PRELIMINARY TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT IS:

25-4.0665 Lifeline Service

Each local exchange telecommunications company providing Lifeline service under an income test shall provide Lifeline service to the customer within 30 days of receiving certification of eligibility from the Office of Public Counsel.

AGENDA*

**FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STAFF RULE WORKSHOP ON LIFELINE
DOCKET NO. 040451-TP**

9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 19, 2004
Room 152, Betty Easley Conference Center
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

OPENING REMARKS BY FPSC STAFF

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES BY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS:

The Florida Commission has Approved the following Eligibility Criteria:

Food Stamps
Medicaid
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI)
Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8 Housing)
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
National School Lunch Free Lunch Program (NSL) (proposed)
Income Eligibility Criterion of 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (proposed)

I. Enrollment Process

For Each of the Eligibility Criteria:

- a. What Documentation Should Be Required of Consumers by ETCs to Process Lifeline & Link-Up Applications When the Consumer:
 1. Applies through the Office of Public Counsel?
 2. Provides eligibility letter received from the Department of Children & Families?
 3. Applies directly to the ETC?
- b. What Additional Steps are Necessary for ETCs to Process Lifeline and Link-Up Applications? (e.g.: verify whether applicant is an existing customer; verify account status – current vs. delinquent; obtain customer’s agreement to toll blocking; verify applicant’s residence lies within the ETCs territory)
- c. Time Required to Process Applications of Consumers:

1. Who applied through the Office of Public Counsel?
2. Who submitted a letter of eligibility received from the Department of Children and Families?
3. Who applied directly to the ETC?

d. Should the enrollment process be consistent among ETCs?

II. Program Verification Process to Ensure Eligibility of Participants

1. Time period between acceptance and verification
2. Statistical sampling method
3. Frequency of periodic verification

III. Establishment of Lifeline Subscribership Goals

1. Company versus statewide goals
2. Incentive or penalty depending on whether goal is met

IV. Reporting Requirements

1. Data to be collected
2. Frequency of reporting

V. Should Rural ETCs Be Treated Differently from Non-Rural ETCs?

1. Definition of Rural ETC.
2. Exempt from state funding?
3. Different funding amount?

VI. Additional Issues of Workshop Participants

STAFF SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP

- a. Post Workshop Comments Due Date
- b. Next Step in the Process

ADJOURN

*This agenda is subject to change without notice

**CONSISTENT WITH COMMISSION POLICY
THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**