

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In re: Petition to recover 2005 tropical system related costs and expenses, by Embarq Florida, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 060644-TL

FILED: DECEMBER 11, 2006

COMMISSION CLERK

COMMISSION STAFF'S PREHEARING STATEMENT

Pursuant to Order No. PSC-06-0850-PCO-TL issued October 11, 2006, and Order No. PSC-06-0981-PCO-TL issued November 11, 2006, the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission files its Prehearing Statement.

a. All Known Witnesses

Iliana H. Piedra

b. All Known Exhibits

IHP-1: Audit Report

c. Staff's Statement of Basic Position

Staff's positions are preliminary and based on materials filed by the parties and on discovery. The preliminary positions are offered to assist the parties in preparing for the hearing. Staff's final positions will be based upon all the evidence in the record and may differ from the preliminary positions stated herein.

CMP _____

COM _____

CTR _____

ECR _____

GCL _____

OPC _____

RCA _____

SCR _____

SGA _____

SEC 1

OTH _____

d. Staff's Position on the Issues

ISSUE 1:

WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF INTRASTATE COSTS AND EXPENSES RELATED TO DAMAGE CAUSED DURING THE 2005 TROPICAL STORM SEASON, IF ANY, THAT SHOULD BE RECOVERED BY EMBARQ, PURSUANT TO SECTION 364.051(4), FLORIDA STATUTES?

POSITION:

Embarq's intrastate extraordinary costs of \$15.47 million should be reduced by the amount of carrying charges and interest requested in this petition.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

ISSUE 2(a): WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE TYPE AND NUMBER OF RETAIL ACCESS LINES, BASIC AND NONBASIC, TO WHICH ANY STORM DAMAGE RECOVERY MAY BE ASSESSED?

POSITION: Staff has no position at this time.

ISSUE 2(b): IS A LINE ITEM CHARGE ON EMBARQ'S WHOLESALE UNE LOOP APPROPRIATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 364.051(4)(B)(6), FLORIDA STATUTES AND FEDERAL LAW? IF YES, ON WHICH TYPES OF LINES SHOULD THE CHARGE BE ASSESSED AND HOW SHOULD THE LINES BE COUNTED? WHAT IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF UNE LOOPS TO BE ASSESSED, IF ANY?

POSITION: Staff has no position at this time.

ISSUE 3: WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE LINE ITEM CHARGE PER ACCESS LINE, IF ANY?

POSITION: The appropriate monthly line item charge per access line is the amount, if any, approved in Issue 1 divided by the appropriate number of access lines, approved in Issues 2(a) and 2(b), divided by 12, as long as this amount does not exceed the statutory limitation of 50¢ per month per customer line as defined in Section 364.051(4), Florida Statutes.

ISSUE 4: IF A LINE ITEM CHARGE IS APPROVED IN ISSUE 3, ON WHAT DATE SHOULD THE CHARGE BECOME EFFECTIVE AND ON WHAT DATE SHOULD THE CHARGE END?

POSITION: If a charge is approved in Issue 3, the charge may be assessed at Embarq's earliest convenience, but no earlier than 30 days from the date of the Commission vote. The charge should be effective for 12 consecutive months. Embarq should provide staff the wording to be used on its bills regarding the storm charge prior to issuance.

ISSUE 5: SHOULD THE DOCKET BE CLOSED?

POSITION: If a charge is not approved, then this docket should be closed. If a charge is approved, then the docket should remain open. At the end of the collection period, Embarq shall file a report on the amount collected. If the collections exceed the amount authorized by the Commission in Issue 1, Embarq shall refund the excess.

e. Pending Motions

Staff has no pending motions.

f. Pending Confidentiality Claims or Requests

Staff has no pending confidentiality claims or requests.

g. Compliance with Order Nos. PSC-06-0850-PCO-TL and PSC-06-0981-PCO-TL

Staff has complied with all requirements of the Order Establishing Procedure entered in this docket.

Respectfully submitted this 11th day of December, 2006.



JASON K. FUDGE
Staff Counsel

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by Embarq Florida, Inc.,
pursuant to Florida Statutes §364.051(4), to
Recover 2005 Tropical System Related Costs
and Expenses

DOCKET NO. 060644-TL

DATED: DECEMBER 11, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that one correct copy of COMMISSION STAFF'S
PREHEARING STATEMENT has been served by Electronic and U. S. mail this 11th day of
December, 2006:

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