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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request by AT&T COMMUNICATIONS)	DOCKET NO. 890634-TI	
OF THE SOUTHERN STATES, INC. for)		
approval of its request to remove the)	ORDER NO. 21521	
\$70 per line minimum monthly charge)		
on WATS	Ś		
)	ISSUED: 7-7-89	

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL McK. WILSON, Chairman THOMAS M. BEARD BETTY EASLEY GERALD L. GUNTER JOHN T. HERNDON

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

ATT-C has requested to eliminate its minimum monthly WATS usage charges. In Order No. 14621 we imposed a \$100 minimum usage charge on WATS, with \$70 on ATT-C's interLATA WATS service and \$30 on the LEC's WATS intraLATA service. On page 9 the Order states,

"A purpose of the minimum usage charge was to prevent uneconomic use of the OUTWATS dedicated access line by deterring low volume users from migrating from MTS to OUTWATS. In addition, it appears that there are certain costs associated with OUTWATS such as recording and billing costs which are incurred and which are not recovered by the existing \$38 recurring monthly charge for dedicated access line charge, and which may not be recovered through low volume usage. The elimination of the minimum results in an underpricing of OUTWATS services that makes OUTWATS more attractive to low volume users, encourages migration from MTS to OUTWATS, and encourages an economically inefficient proliferation of dedicated access lines to low volume users."

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In its tariff filing, ATT-C has provided no explanation as to why this minimum usage charge should be eliminated, or how circumstances have changed in order to justify elimination of the charge. We, therefore, believe it would be appropriate to review the WATS minimum usage charge requirements at this time to determine if it is still necessary or relevant. Because a decision to eliminate ATT-C's minimum usage charge would also affect the LECs' minimum usage charge, we will suspend this filing until additional support documentation can be gathered from ATT-C and the LECs.

It is therefore,

ORDERED that ATT-C's tariff filing removing its WATS minimum usage charge is suspended to allow adequate time to gather documentation from ATT-C in support of this filing. It is further

ORDERED that this docket will remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 7th day of JULY , 1989

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

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