

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Requirement for) DOCKET NO. 940224-TL
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS,) ORDER NO. PSC-94-0435-FOF-TL
INC. d/b/a SOUTHERN BELL) ISSUED: April 11, 1994
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY)
to modify practices with respect)
to grounding down guy wires.)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
DIANE K. KIESLING
LUIS J. LAUREDO

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER MODIFYING PRESENT GROUNDING PRACTICES

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

This Order applies to Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company's (SBT) practices with respect to grounding of electrical current which passes through wires suspended on telephone poles. SBT's current grounding practice utilizes the through bolt that connects the messenger on one side of the pole to the down guy on the opposite side of the pole. According to this procedure, the down guy is looped over the guy hook whereby the resulting electrical connection depends on the tension of the guy and the anchor that is screwed into the ground. It is this attachment at the guy hook that is our concern. This type of attachment allows movement during high winds or changes in temperature. In this manner, if the guy wire becomes slack, the electrical connection may be broken and thus the ground becomes ineffective thereby creating a potentially dangerous situation.

A more reliable ground exists where a bonded ground strap is installed between the telephone cable and the down guy. Under this configuration the ground strap is securely attached to the actual

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guy wire and not the gripper or strandwise. Accordingly, we find that Southern Bell Telephone shall modify its grounding practices to require installation of a bonded ground strap between the guy wire and the grounded messenger. The new grounding method shall be used for all new installations and existing installations should be modified through normal maintenance and work order activity.

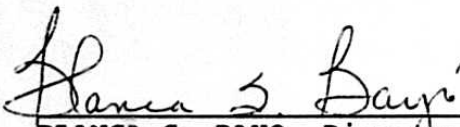
Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company modify its grounding practices in Florida as specified above. It is further

ORDERED that this Order, shall become final and effective unless an appropriate petition is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 11th day of April, 1994.



BLANCA S. BAYO, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

WEW

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature and will not become effective or final, except as provided by Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.029(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at his office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on May 2, 1994.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date as provided by Rule 25-22.029(6), Florida Administrative Code.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this order becomes final and effective on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.