



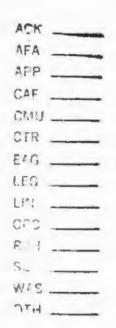
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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Resolution by City Commission of Haines City Requesting Extended Area Service (EAS) from Haines City Exchange to c'' Exchanges within Polk County. Docket No. 950699-TL Filed: February 21, 1997

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

GEORGE H. CAREFOOT



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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

1		Direct Testimony of	
2		George H. Carefoot	
3		On Behalf of The City of Haines City	
4		Before the Florida Public Service Commission	
5		February 21, 1997	
6			
7	Q.	Please _tate your name, business name, address and title.	
8	Α.	George N. Carefoot, President, First National Bank of Polk County, Post Office	
9		Box 188, Haines City, FL 33845-0188.	
10			
11	Q.	Please describe your educational background and your business	
12		experience.	
13	A.	I graduated with a BSBA from Stetson University in 1967. I am currently	
14		President of First National Bank of Polk County. I have previously served as	
15		President of Southland Bank in Deltona and Flagship Bank in Tellahassee.	
16			
17	Q.	Please describe your role as a community leader in Haines City.	
18	Α.	I am current President of Haines City Chamber of Commerce and past President	
19		of the Haines City Rotary. I also currently serve on the Ridge Technical School	
20		Advisory Board.	
21			
22	Q.	Why is it appropriate that the Florida Public Service Commission be	
23		concerned with the provision of countywide extended area service for	
24		Haines City?	
25	Α.	Haines City is the fastest growing area in Polk County. The County seat is in	
24	A.	Haines City?	

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1		Bartow, and Lakeland is the largest city in the county. Haines City residents
2		must call long distance for many county services. Many services only available
3		in Lakeland or other parts of the county require long distance cells, professional
4		as well as retail.
5		
6	Q.	In what wa, will the implementation of the extended area service impact
7		your business and community interest?
8	Α.	In January we made 92 cells to various in-county long distance numbers. This
9		is costly over a year. We now have to use directory assistance or multiple
10		phone books to make calls to Bartow and Lakeland end other exchanges in Polk
11		County.
12		
13	Q.	In what ways do you foresee the implementation of the extended area
14		service impacting the economy of Haines City?
15	Α.	Because of the growth, Haines City is losing its isolation from the rest of the
16		County. It will allow Hames City to become a center of commerce.
17		
18	Q.	Describe what you see as Haines City's growth potential with the extended
19		area service for local telephone usage.
20	Α.	It will make Haines City an even better choice for residents. Retail services will
21		benefit since their customers can contact them without long distance charges.
22		
23	Q.	Please describe any additional factors which you believe the Florida Public
24		Service Commission should consider with regard to Haines City's
25		application.

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Our County is tied together economically - retirement, citrus, distributions. It 1 A. makes no sense to chop communication into smaller parts. In a time when one communicates with the world for flat rate cost, we must use a 1950's telephonic communications system. Using cellular phones, we can call throughout Central Florida, Orlando, Tampa and South to Fort Myers, without long distance charges. This Community should at lease have the small window of our county within which we can communicate freely.