



JACK SHREVE
PUBLIC COUNSEL

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

c/o The Florida Legislature
111 West Madison Street
Room 812
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400
904-488-9330

April 15, 1997

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: **Docket No. 960794-TL**

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-references docket are the original and 15 copies of the Settlement Agreement entered into between Quincy Telephone Company and the Citizens of the State of Florida.

Please indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed duplicate of this letter and return it to our office.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Beck
Deputy Public Counsel

ACK
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CJB:bsr

Enclosures

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SECRETARY OF RECORDS

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03821 APR 15 1997

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

ORIGINAL
FILE COPY

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for Approval of)
Remaining Life Rate by Quincy)
Telephone Company.)
/

Docket No. 960794-TL

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into between Quincy Telephone Company ("Quincy") and the Citizens of the State of Florida ("Citizens")

WHEREAS, on July 1, 1996, Quincy filed a request with the Florida Public Service Commission seeking authorization to change its depreciation rates, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission issued a proposed agency action order ("order") on January 31, 1997, approving new depreciation rates for Quincy, and

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1997, the Citizens filed a protest of the proposed agency action order and requested the Commission to hold an evidentiary hearing pursuant to section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes, on Quincy's request to change its depreciation rates, and

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WHEREAS, the parties wish to avoid the expense and uncertainty at this time of engaging in such a proceeding.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows.

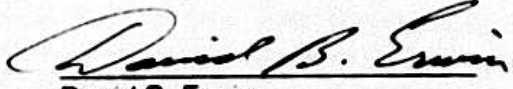
1. The Citizens agree to withdraw their protest of proposed agency action and petition for a section 120.57(1) hearing on the condition that the Florida Public Service Commission accepts this agreement.

2. Quincy agrees that the Citizens may litigate or otherwise contest the appropriateness of any or all of the depreciation rates contained in the proposed agency action order at any time that Quincy seeks rates based in whole or in part on those depreciation rates.

Dated this 15th day of April 1997.


Jack Shreve, Public Counsel
Office of the Public Counsel
111 West Madison St., #812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Attorney for the Citizens
of the State of Florida


David B. Erwin
Young, van Assenderp & Benton, P A
P. O. Box 1833
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1833

Attorney for Quincy Telephone
Company

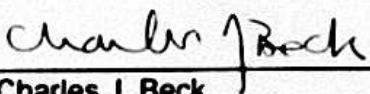
**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
DOCKET NO. 960794-TL**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail or *hand delivery to the following party representatives on this 15th day of April, 1997.

David B. Erwin, Esq.
Young, van Assenderp &
Benton, P.A.
P.O. Box 1833
Tallahassee, FL

Charles S. Pelligrini, Esq.
Division of Legal Services
Fla. Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0862

Mr. Tomas M. McCabe
Quincy Telephone Co.
P.O. Box 189
Quincy, FL 32351



Charles J. Beck
Deputy Public Counsel