

A P P E A R A N C E S

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15 ALSO PRESENT: Sandy Moses, Division of Records and
16 Reporting, Public Service Commission
17 Jonathan Audu, Public Service Commission
18 Levent Ileri, Division of
19 Telecommunications, Public Service
20 Commission
21 Robert Weiss, County of Volusia
22 Evelyn Lynn, State Representative
23 Ann McFall, Commissioner with Volusia
24 County Council
25 Christina Travis, Vice Mayor of City of
Daytona Beach
Yvonne Scarlett Golden, Commissioner
City of Daytona Beach
Dorothy Hukill, Mayor of Port Orange
James Hathaway, Commissioner
New Smyrna Beach
Doug Horn, Commissioner Deltona
Robert Apgar, Volusia Council of
Government (VCOG) Chairman
James McCroskey, VCOG Deland
Mark Slack, Volusia County School Board
Lynn Fagan, Halifax Area Chamber of
Commerce
Lloyd Collins, Halifax Area Chamber of
Commerce

1 ALSO PRESENT: (continued)

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Donna Concannon, Southeast Volusia
Chamber of Commerce
Peggy Farmer, Ormond Beach Chamber of
Commerce
Joseph Jaynes, District 4
Representative Volusia County Council
Mario Espin, Director of KMC Telecom
David Haas, County Administrator
Flagler County

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon. Counsel,
3 will you please read the notice?

4 MS. KEATING: This issue came in LATA 2000.
5 The time and place had been set for a service
6 hearing in Docket 990517. The purpose is as set
7 forth in the notice.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. As you came in,
9 you-all received a green sheet. Let me --
10 because we've got this room for a rather limited
11 time, Mr. Foley from New Star usually gives a
12 explanation of everyone in their maps in that
13 green handout that you have. My hope is is that
14 we won't need to do that explanation, and if you
15 have any questions on any one of those things, we
16 can explain it or call Mr. Foley to explain that
17 individually out there for you. Mr. Foley
18 represents New Star. It's a company that
19 administers area codes for the nation, formerly
20 Lockheed.

21 Does anybody want us to do a walk-through of
22 those things? Let me just explain briefly. When
23 you read the word "overlay" over the 13 or 14
24 lines we've got up there, overlay means 10-digit
25 dialing. Geographic means seven-digit dialing.

1 When you have a combination, somebody is dialing
2 10, somebody is dialing 7, it's not one or the
3 other -- it's one or the other for the people in
4 that area.

5 That said, I mean, that's probably confused
6 some of you, but you can ask away when you get
7 here. I'm going to then swear in all those that
8 are going to speak today; that is, if you signed
9 up outside to speak, I'm going to ask you to
10 stand and we'll swear you in. And if I could
11 please ask those to rise.

12 Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth,
13 the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

14 (Audience stands and replies, "I do.")

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Great. And Mr. Beck who
16 represents Jack Shreve, the State's Public
17 Counsel, is your attorney here on this issue,
18 represents the People of the State of Florida.
19 So if you have some technical questions for
20 anyone, he's more than available. Likewise, we
21 have our staff here who will answer questions
22 about area codes or other questions that you may
23 have about the area of regulation that the PSC
24 has.

25 Let me introduce the commissioners here.

1 Present to my right is Commissioner Terry
2 Deason. To my left is Commissioner Leon Jacobs,
3 and, of course, yours truly, Joe Garcia.

4 If we can -- if there's any question you
5 have, please do not be worried about asking it.
6 We'll be more than happy to answer it for you.

7 And I also want to commend Mr. Weiss who has
8 followed us across the state. We clearly know
9 that the interests that you have in this area
10 that is of great, I think, benefit to us. And
11 I'm sure my colleagues likewise feel that way
12 because we understand what your needs are. It
13 helps us as we work through implementing a
14 program that hopefully will suit your needs and
15 the needs of everyone in the 904 area. That,
16 said, Mr. Beck?

17 MR. BECK: Thank you, Chairman Garcia. My
18 name is Charlie Beck with the Public Counsel's
19 Office. I'm going to call everybody who signed
20 up ahead of time and checked the box that said,
21 If you wanted to speak. After we're through with
22 that, everybody, there will be another
23 opportunity to address the Commission if you'd
24 like to.

25 When you come up, if you would, please state

1 your name for the record, then you'd go ahead
2 after that.

3 Our first witness is David Haas.

4 MR. HAAS: I guess the punishment for
5 signing in last is you get to go first.

6 I -- Hi, I'm David Haas. I'm the County
7 Administrator from Flagler County.

8 I have two questions. The first question
9 has to do with extended area dialing privileges
10 that residential customers of Flagler County
11 currently enjoy. Are there any scenarios that
12 would change the extended area dialing privileges
13 that our residents enjoy if they have chosen that
14 option?

15 THE CHAIRMAN: No. No option affects cost
16 of calling at all.

17 MR. HAAS: Okay. The other question that I
18 had was -- is answered in the maps that are
19 provided in the handout. I do have a resolution
20 that was passed unanimously by the Board of
21 County Commissioners of Flagler County requesting
22 that one single area code be assigned to Volusia
23 and Flagler County and that rather than having
24 10-digit dialing or an overlay, that would be the
25 number one preference of our commission.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: That's fantastic.

2 MR. HAAS: I want to give you our resolution

3 --

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah, I'm going to put that
5 -- we won't put it in as an exhibit. We'll put
6 it in the reading file; we've had so many other
7 exhibits so we won't need to distinguish it, but,
8 yes, give it to us so we've got it for you. In
9 fact, if you have various copies, leave one there
10 and we'll pass out the rest up here, okay?

11 (Mr. Haas tendering.)

12 THE CHAIRMAN: And, in fact, you have --

13 MR. HAAS: That's all the --

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, no, we get to ask you
15 questions now.

16 MR. HAAS: Okay.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: I just wanted to ask you --
18 we have two questions. Clearly, I just wanted to
19 elucidate it for the record. You clearly prefer
20 to be part of the Volusia concept? In other
21 words, you want to stay -- you feel your
22 community of interest is better linked to Volusia
23 than to the north?

24 MR. HAAS: Yes. That's correct.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let me ask you a

1 question since you're a resident of that part of
2 the state: Do you believe that St. Johns is more
3 linked to the Duval/Flagler --

4 MR. HAAS: I'm not a resident of Duval.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: -- part of the state? You
6 have a better idea than we who are not. And so
7 I'm just asking is -- do you think that the
8 demarcation -- and I'll ask you to look in your
9 -- in the green sheet on Option 6, which I think
10 is probably the clearest one, where the division
11 is right along your border with St. Johns, and
12 that one basically takes the Duval area, the
13 St. Johns, and Nassau and Clay County, puts them
14 as one, and then you become part of the southern,
15 do you think that's a pretty fair assessment of
16 the communities of interests there?

17 MR. HAAS: I do. We have a contingent of
18 residents who live in northern Flagler County --

19 THE CHAIRMAN: That was my next question.

20 MR. HAAS: -- who are served by the LATA
21 line to St. Johns County. It has been a concern
22 of a spattering of residents up there that they
23 can't make a local phone call to, say, the high
24 school or to the county administration or even
25 the city hall in the City of Palm Coast. And one

1 of our commissioners did request that you
2 consider that those individuals should be allowed
3 to call locally in Flagler County. But I do
4 think that, yes, that is, St. Johns County --

5 THE CHAIRMAN: We will probably be giving
6 you a call. Mr. Ileri from our staff will call
7 you about your interest in having some change in
8 the LATA. Although we get a feeling it's not a
9 unanimous feeling in that area, so it may even be
10 difficult for everyone to take that position.

11 MR. HAAS: We did a survey of the residents
12 who are affected, and the overwhelming majority
13 of those residents wished that they'd be allowed
14 to continue making local phone calls to St. Johns
15 County. They did express that they wished also
16 to make local phone calls to Flagler County as
17 well; but, you know, we'd like --

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Maybe we all can get a copy
19 of that so it'll give us a better idea.

20 MR. HAAS: Sure.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Commissioner --

22 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Do you have a feel for
23 the growth that's expected in that area? We
24 heard that there may be some significant growth
25 occurring in that area.

1 MR. HAAS: That's possible. I don't think
2 it would be extremely significant as far as other
3 areas of Flagler are concerned. There's going to
4 be some growth, but there can't be a whole lot;
5 it's not that big of an area.

6 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: All right. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
8 Appreciate it.

9 MR. HAAS: Thank you.

10 MR. BECK: Our next witness is Mario Espin.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: They say it's a small world;
12 Mario went to my same high school.

13 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: We didn't know that.

14 MR. ESPIN: I'm not sure how they let both
15 of us out in the same time --

16 Good afternoon, Commissioners, thanks for
17 having us here. My name is Mario Espin. I'm the
18 director of KMC Telecom. We're one of the local
19 telephone companies that serve the area that
20 we're discussing here today.

21 I happen to be also a resident of Flagler
22 County, and I live in the northernmost portion of
23 the county, so, therefore, I'm on the last street
24 that allows the LATA to make local calls, so I
25 can appreciate my colleague and neighbor's

1 concern there as well.

2 I wanted to state for the record our
3 position from the company perspective, and we
4 certainly have looked at this as a public
5 utility, so the most important part is that we
6 understand that the operative word here is
7 "public." So, therefore, our interest is to
8 serve our customers, not self-indulgence.
9 Overlay for us, a telephone company, is the
10 easiest. We need to do nothing; all we do is
11 just lay a number down. But I'm not here to
12 serve my best interests. I'm here to serve my
13 customers' best interests.

14 So we also did a small survey in the last 48
15 hours just from different customers calling them,
16 asking them what their opinion would be. It was
17 a clear consensus. I mean, it was 100 percent,
18 and we don't even have one vote against a
19 seven-digit dialing plan stay in as is. We all
20 recognize that we're going to take a hit on our
21 stationery. That's okay. Long-term, the worst
22 that could happen is that your fax number and
23 your telephone number will have two different
24 area codes to match as your businesses grow and
25 my customers' businesses grow. This is

1 definitely an imperative impact to their
2 business. I don't think that is a prudent way of
3 going about it.

4 We also looked at it from the technology
5 perspective. Our position was it is easier for
6 all operating systems that we have in place today
7 to implement the current seven-digit dialing
8 plan. Less digits are being transposed. All
9 said, time will be faster. The equipment works
10 less. So there's really no downside other than
11 changing stationeries. And I think we all
12 recognize that we're going in that direction.

13 Also, there are things that we want to, if
14 you will, argue on behalf of the seven-digit
15 dialing plan, that in the future, in the near
16 future, I believe that Internet access lines do
17 not have to require using a telephone number so,
18 therefore, we don't cannibalize that area code as
19 rapidly as what we've seen in the past. There's
20 really no reason for a computer to consume an
21 entire phone number if you just want to access
22 the Internet. So there's a possibility -- I
23 don't know if you all are familiar with the term
24 "IP addresses." Using that, we can just use an
25 irregular code as a circuit ID, if you will, that

1 would allow freeing up some numbers. So we want
2 to argue on behalf that's it's easier for the
3 consumer, there's going to be less pain for
4 transitions. Customers are going to be happy in
5 the ease of seven-digit dialing. That's what
6 we've all been brought up with. So the best
7 thing to do is just let's just keep on doing,
8 don't break what isn't broken. And let's just
9 continue going in that direction. Thank you.
10 Commissioners?

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Appreciate it.

12 MR. ESPIN: That was easy enough.

13 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Mr. Espin?

14 MR. ESPIN: Oh, I'm sorry.

15 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: You have service --
16 coming (inaudible) --

17 MR. ESPIN: Yes. We're building the network
18 going in that direction, yes, sir.

19 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Okay. You wouldn't --
20 will you be limited by the LATA boundaries that
21 -- and so that would you have the same issue
22 with --

23 MR. ESPIN: No, we would not. Our serving
24 area would be Volusia and Flagler. They're
25 really sister counties, so for us our serving

1 area would be satisfied by the current LATA as we
2 know it today.

3 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Okay. And you don't
4 face any legal restrictions, do you, that
5 BellSouth are facing?

6 MR. ESPIN: Well, we have the same -- yeah,
7 we have the same tariff applied, and so we have
8 the same serving restrictions, yes. I mean, I
9 cannot originate a seven-digit dialing call from
10 Flagler to here and not have it be a toll call.
11 So, yes, we do. Again, what's good for BellSouth
12 is good for us so it works both ways, all right?

13 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Okay.

14 MR. ESPIN: Any other questions?

15 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Thank you.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Good seeing you.

17 MR. ESPIN: Likewise.

18 MR. BECK: Representative Lynn?

19 MS. LYNN: Thank you so much for having this
20 hearing here in our area. I very much appreciate
21 it because so frequently those of us in
22 government have you meet some place off in a
23 distance and we can't get there and it's very
24 hard for input.

25 I have been very hesitant to put anything in

1 writing to you because there are two things that
2 concern my citizenzy, the people I represent.
3 Number one, don't increase any rates. And the
4 second thing is: Make my life simple.

5 And as I say, I have not put anything in
6 writing, but from everything I have heard,
7 everything I have read, I have yet to hear
8 anything that dissuades me from thinking that the
9 seven-digit dialing is the way to go. Allow us
10 that simplicity. Even with that, I don't know; I
11 made a phone call this morning that I thought was
12 in my area, but I had to dial the area code that
13 --

14 Life gets very complicated, and I believe
15 that you as representatives of our government are
16 here to listen to the public. It's what we are
17 all supposed to be in; and if we listen and then
18 turn around and do something that is just what we
19 want and not what the public wants, I'm afraid
20 we're not being responsive and we're doing what
21 government over the years has been flagrantly
22 guilty of, ignoring the public.

23 So I would urge you to think in terms of the
24 people who speak here today. The majority I know
25 are in favor of seven-digit dialing, simplicity,

1 and that would help us a great deal. And I know
2 you're going to be responsive. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for coming,
4 Representative.

5 MR. BECK: Bob Weiss.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: I just want to point out to
7 you because this is your community and you have
8 done a fantastic job of keeping us informed and
9 following us around which is always good. And I
10 only wonder it must be tougher for
11 representatives in this area when you have
12 fantastic citizenry and I can appreciate it.

13 MR. WEISS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
14 appreciate that. I -- we listen when people give
15 us tips on what to do here. We try to listen
16 with honor. We do appreciate your graciousness
17 in all the previous three meetings, and as you've
18 said this morning, you're now on our home turf,
19 and we welcome you to Volusia County.

20 We'll try not to be duplicative, and we'll
21 try not to this morning -- this afternoon as
22 well, we'll try to present new speakers. We'll
23 flesh out either new ideas or new folks. You
24 just heard Representative Lynn representing us
25 which we're pleased with.

1 This morning we were able to show you some
2 national representation from Congressman John
3 Mica's office. We hope to provide some more
4 state representation tomorrow, perhaps, in
5 Deltona.

6 Now, I'd like to move on down to the County
7 Council, and again, our purpose in all of this is
8 I think hopefully we can prioritize this as to
9 make our requests clear that what we're asking
10 for is a singular area code for all of Volusia
11 County. That's our top priority over anything
12 else. Our top priority would be a uniform area
13 code to include what's now in the 407 portion;
14 De Bary, Deltona, Osteen, make us a unified
15 county, seven-digit dialing as Ms. Lynn said.

16 There's -- again, we're looking for a
17 win-win situation. We're not looking at putting
18 anyone else in a bad situation where they have to
19 dial -- start dialing 10 digits because of our
20 good fortune. We do, however, feel that it's
21 within technology and within a way -- and that's
22 why we presented Alternative 14 to you -- that we
23 believe there are ways that everyone can stay
24 with seven-digit dialing and with the -- I mean,
25 in favor of geographics, but tremendously over

1 any kind of an overlay.

2 So I'd like to introduce again Ms. Ann
3 McFall who represents the County Council on this
4 issue, but she's closing her eyes saying -- I
5 believe she has some other members of the Council
6 to introduce.

7 MS. MCFALL: Thank you, Bob. And I agree,
8 Mr. Chairman, totally, Mr. Weiss has done a
9 magnificent effort on Volusia County, and I would
10 like to thank him. We have -- and I'm not going
11 to reiterate the sad story I told you about --

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I ask you real quick,
13 make sure she got your name just in case.

14 MS. MCFALL: Commissioner Ann McFall,
15 Volusia County District 5. And I'm not going to
16 reiterate my sad story of living in 407 and
17 calling all sorts of places.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: We won't forget it, though.

19 MS. MCFALL: Okay, good.

20 I do want to introduce and take my time to
21 introduce some very special people; the Chairman
22 of Volusia County Council, Jim Ward, who also
23 represents the Port Orange area; and Council
24 member Joe Jaynes from the Ormond Beach area.
25 And in addition to that, we have several city

1 commissioners; Commissioner Jim Hathaway from New
2 Smyrna Beach; from Daytona Beach, Commissioner
3 Christine Travis, and Commissioner Yvonne
4 Scarlett Golden. From Deltona we have
5 Commissioner Doug Horn. We have Mayor Dorothy
6 Hukill here from Port Orange who has worn several
7 hats this evening, and you'll probably meet her
8 later on.

9 My question is and what's most important to
10 me is: Please make it very clear to me that that
11 pocket of 407 in Volusia County is going to be
12 part of the 90- -- be part of the new area code.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: That's what we're going to
14 try to do. Clearly, that's one of the issues
15 that'll be before us and we're starting to do.
16 That creates, just so you know, it creates in our
17 decision a pull towards a new area code, which I
18 think you guys are aware. Clearly, since you're
19 pulling us towards a new area code, I doubt at
20 least in my thinking that you will end up with
21 904, but I think you guys are all aware of that.

22 MS. MCFALL: Right.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: But, clearly, it's an issue
24 before us, and certainly if -- you could have a
25 coup right here; you've got so many people here.

1 But, clearly, it's something that'll be foremost
2 in our thinking as we -- and I think I can speak
3 for the other commissioners when I say that.

4 MS. MCFALL: Thank you very much.

5 MR. WEISS: We've had some excellent
6 representation from our 16 cities. We've met
7 many city (inaudible) -- city representatives up
8 to this moment. We've had some new folks from
9 New Smyrna, and our largest city is Daytona Beach
10 and is represented today by Ms. Christine Travis,
11 our Vice Mayor.

12 MS. TRAVIS: Hi, I'm Christina Travis. I'm
13 Vice Mayor of Daytona Beach and Zone 1 City
14 Commissioner. Our Mayor, Baron Asher, is out of
15 town, and he's unable to join us.

16 What I'd like to do is to read in the record
17 a letter that I sent you and hopefully you've
18 received but the public would not have it. It
19 says: "Honorable Commissioners, the purpose of
20 this letter is to formally express the total
21 support of the City of Daytona Beach for a single
22 telephone area code for all of Volusia County.
23 Our county is a diverse yet unified county with a
24 distinct highly populated coastal plain, of which
25 Daytona Beach is the hub, and our inland, more

1 rural" --

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me.

3 MS. TRAVIS: Pardon?

4 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm going to ask you to slow
5 down a little bit.

6 MS. TRAVIS: I'm sorry. I'm trying to save
7 you myself.

8 "Our county is a diverse yet unified county
9 with a distinct highly populated coastal plain,
10 of which Daytona Beach is the hub, and our
11 inland, more rural, western neighbors, with whom
12 we have a very significant and continuing
13 community of interest.

14 As you are aware, the county seat resides in
15 De Land in the western portion thereby mandating
16 the constant flow of communications between east
17 and west. Additionally, the growth in the
18 southwestern portion to include the City of
19 Deltona has increased that community of
20 interest."

21 Almost every area of life here in the county
22 requires frequent interaction across the county
23 to include governmental, business, support of our
24 many special events at the "World's Most Famous
25 Beach," schools, medical and other basic vital

1 services and activities which make the quality of
2 life in this part of Florida what it is.

3 We, along with the rest of Volusia County,
4 ask your assistance in improving communications
5 for us -- for us all by ensuring that all areas
6 of the county are assigned the same single area
7 code and permitted seven-digit dialing throughout
8 the relief plan for area codes 904 is
9 established.

10 We did have a staff recommendation that if
11 it's available we would like to consider the
12 number 500. I don't know if that came up
13 before. We received the Alternate 14.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: I think that that last 0 may
15 be a problem.

16 MS. TRAVIS: Okay. That was just something
17 I said -- the Alternative 14, many of our people
18 have seen that, and they are in favor of that
19 one.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Although I appreciate you
21 thinking about that, and we'll ask you to get
22 back to us. If you spot it on the New Star web
23 page, all the available numbers are there.
24 That's a good one. Unfortunately, I can't see
25 where that can be used.

1 MS. TRAVIS: Okay. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. That's a good
3 one, though.

4 MR. WEISS: Commissioner Ms. Scarlett
5 Golden, can you come up here?

6 MS. GOLDEN: Thank you, Mr. Weiss. Good
7 afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is
8 Yvonne Scarlett Golden. I'm Zone 5 City
9 Commissioner in Daytona Beach.

10 My appearance here, and as Representative
11 Lynn say, I didn't have a -- I don't have a
12 prepared speech, but I come before you to appeal
13 to you to make all of our lives simple, that once
14 we start talking about dialing 10-digit dialing
15 or once we start talking about making local calls
16 with overlay, we get everybody to become very
17 nervous. They're very confused. And goodness
18 knows, all of you all know, we don't need that
19 kind of addition, that kind of confusion among
20 our constituents, among our citizens.

21 As you all know, Daytona Beach, we -- in
22 Daytona Beach, we have a lot of special events.
23 And with the increase in our population with the
24 increase and the participation in these special
25 events, certainly we are concerned about a

1 seven-digit dialing remaining seven digits.

2 I, too, would like to support the
3 Alternative 14 that Mr. Weiss gave to me this
4 afternoon. To me it looks simple. And I would
5 like to ask you a question: What's the
6 possibility of you ensuring us that this will be
7 our number one -- your number one priority?

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Commissioner, I have to tell
9 you we're not allowed to tell you what we're
10 going to decide before we decide it, so those are
11 the rules of the game unfortunately, so. But
12 just be aware that you and your constituents as
13 well as your fellow members of your government
14 have made very clear what their desires are, and
15 they've made them clear in Lake City where they
16 have very little business there except us and
17 that that was appreciated. And, clearly, it's
18 something we're very aware of. I think Staff is
19 very sensitive to it and has been from the onset
20 of this. So I can just tell you that we're all
21 sensitive as to it.

22 MR. DEASON: And let me say this: We're
23 developing an evidentiary record, and there will
24 be further hearings, and we have to wait and
25 reserve our decision until all the evidence is

1 in. I'm sure you can appreciate that.

2 MS. GOLDEN: Yes. Yes, and I thoroughly
3 understand it. But with your support and your
4 understanding that we here in Volusia/Flagler
5 counties, I believe we have come together very
6 cohesively that to say to you that we certainly
7 would like to remain with the seven-digit
8 dialing. Thank you so much.

9 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: And a very strong
10 record that supports that, I might add.

11 MS. GOLDEN: Thank you.

12 MR. WEISS: The City of Port Orange is more
13 represented throughout our areas, but this
14 afternoon we have Mayor Dorothy Hukill.

15 MS. HUKILL: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,
16 Commissioners. I know you've heard from several
17 representatives of my city, so I'll be brief.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: State your name and --

19 MS. HUKILL: Dorothy Hukill, and I beg your
20 indulgence. My name is Dorothy L. Hukill, and I
21 represent the City of Port Orange as Mayor. And
22 I'm here today to present testimony on behalf of
23 the City to the Commission concerning the
24 proposed numbering plan for the 904 area code.

25 Port Orange is a city of 47,000 people

1 located in Volusia County. And we here in
2 Volusia County have for many years had to contend
3 with multiple area codes. I'm slowing down; I'm
4 sorry.

5 One third of our citizens have one area
6 code, and the remaining two thirds have a
7 separate area code. That is about to be
8 compounded even with the overlaying of a third
9 area code in our county.

10 With the need to divide the 904 area code,
11 you have the opportunity to unite our county.
12 Multiple area codes are an inconvenience.
13 They're a deterrent to good business practices,
14 and this division can be rectified, and I would
15 dare say "rectified" easily, as the Chairman
16 smiles and says, "sure."

17 We understand that Volusia County does not
18 have enough telephone subscribers to justify one
19 exclusive area code, and we fully realize that we
20 probably will have to share with surrounding
21 counties. And that is a good plan for us. And
22 sharing with that -- with other counties would be
23 acceptable.

24 We only hope that you would review the
25 projected need in the future for telephone

1 numbers and divide the area code so that we are
2 not faced with this situation in the very
3 short-term future as changing area codes is
4 expensive for telecommunication companies,
5 expensive for businesses, expensive for
6 residents, expensive for government. It's poor
7 for everyone.

8 Finally, we impress that you establish an
9 implementation schedule that would allow ample
10 time for consumers to make the adjustment to a
11 changing area code.

12 I'd also like to say that I am president of
13 the Volusia League of Cities which comprise of
14 the 16 cities in this county, and I sit on the
15 executive committee of VCOG where we have our
16 chairman from VCOG here this afternoon who will
17 address you.

18 Bottom line, ladies and gentlemen, is that
19 we want one area code. We accept a new area
20 code, but we need one area code. If you have any
21 questions, I'll be willing to answer them.
22 Otherwise, I thank you so much for your time and
23 your attention.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Mayor, thank you for being
25 here. Just so that you're aware, August 3rd of

1 1999 will be when the staff recommendation will
2 be filed. I'm sorry, 2000. That begs the
3 question about us making a decision before we
4 make one. So 2000 --

5 MS. HUKILL: Change that record.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Yes. And the
7 Commission will vote on it on Tuesday, August
8 15th of 2000. So you can probably find that rec
9 in the -- on our Internet site on our web site.
10 And likewise, we are -- they telecast and we have
11 live feed, so if you're interested in listening
12 to that. But that's when we will be making our
13 decision, which gives us, if you would have seen
14 Mr. Foley's presentation, gives us a great deal
15 of time before we implement it so that we can do
16 a comprehensive dialing period and then
17 mandatory.

18 MS. HUKILL: Mr. Chairman -- (inaudible) --
19 but the next location you'll see Port Orange at
20 that. We're very committed to it.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Looking forward to
22 it. Thank you.

23 MS. HUKILL: We're building up for it.

24 MR. WEISS: New Smyrna Beach has also been
25 represented in all of our meetings, and this

1 afternoon we have Commissioner Jim Hathaway.

2 MR. HATHAWAY: Mr. Chairman and
3 Commissioners, my name is Jim Hathaway. I'm the
4 Zone 3 City Commissioner from the City of New
5 Smyrna Beach. New Smyrna Beach is proud to be a
6 part of this hearing today. We've sent
7 representatives yesterday to the meeting. We've
8 sent representatives this morning to the
9 meeting. We will have representatives at
10 tomorrow's meeting in fact.

11 But we will echo what our sister cities and
12 our county and as well as our local league, as
13 well our Volusia VCOG individuals have mentioned
14 already: New Smyrna Beach is obviously in favor
15 of the seven-digit dialing. But if this were a
16 perfect world, and we all know it's not, but if
17 it were, I'd go back to the simplified five-digit
18 dialing, but I know we can't do that.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: You have some support in Lake
20 City. They were very much for that.

21 MR. HATHAWAY: Well, if we could go back to
22 the good old days. I know we don't want to go
23 back to some of those good old days, but reality
24 speaks; we know we have to go forward. We know
25 we're growing steady; we know we're a growing

1 county.

2 And we would like to echo all sentiments
3 that have already been expressed. We're in
4 complete agreement with a simplified plan with
5 keeping the same dialing code for the same
6 county. If you want to include those other
7 counties, we like Alternate 6; we like
8 Alternate 5. And we understand Alternate 14 is
9 being preferred; we can go along with that. And
10 I thank you for allowing us to have this time to
11 speak to you. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Yes, sir, you'll
13 get an opportunity to thank Commissioner Deason.
14 He voted with me on the two power plant projects,
15 and you'll also get a chance to work with
16 Commissioner Jacobs who didn't.

17 MR. HATHAWAY: We'll be more than happy to
18 sit down and discuss it with you at another
19 time. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: I'm sure.

21 MR. WEISS: One of the areas that's growing
22 the fastest in our county and one of the --
23 that's in the -- one of our areas that's giving
24 us the most difficulties is Deltona. And today
25 we have Commissioner Doug Horn from Deltona.

1 MR. HORN: My name is Doug Horn. I'm
2 Commissioner District 6 in Deltona. In my paying
3 job, I'm a service manager for ICON Office
4 Solutions and responsible for our statewide
5 dispatch operation. We slam the paging companies
6 4,000 times a day with pages. We're slamming
7 faxes with about 2,000 overnight for billing
8 purposes. And every morning we're in there
9 changing, well last night I wasn't supposed to
10 dial 10 digits, but tonight I am. And this has
11 been going on ever since that drop-dead date that
12 turned out not to be a drop-dead date in the 407
13 overlay.

14 I am fortunate that I live in the 407 area
15 code where I can call anywhere in Deltona and not
16 have to worry about it, but not everybody is so
17 fortunate. Some of them are on this magical
18 Sanford exchange that is nowhere near Sanford,
19 and to call their friends a block away, they have
20 to make a long distance call.

21 Now, when my personal telecommunications
22 bill gets under \$300 a month, I'm real happy.
23 But there's a lot of casual telephone users, a
24 lot of people who have a problem when they have
25 to make a long distance call, and we need to look

1 into that on a county-wide basis.

2 I've been involved with the schools for a
3 long time, and the most common complaint I've
4 heard about some of the schools in Deltona is, I
5 can't call my teacher without it being a long
6 distance call. In some cases, they are three
7 miles down the road from a school, and that
8 pretty much stinks.

9 We need to come up with a common plan so
10 that everybody in Volusia County dials the same
11 way. The plan you are on now is so confusing.
12 Even the computers at the phone companies don't
13 understand it.

14 Prime example, last night I tried to call a
15 constituent. Supposed to be a 10-digit number,
16 dialed it, got this nasty recording that said,
17 Oh, you only need to dial seven digits. So,
18 okay, fine. Hung up. Dialed seven digits. Got
19 a nasty recording that said, No, you now have to
20 dial 10 digits. It changed just that fast. And
21 this happens all the time.

22 And I make hundreds of phone calls a day
23 between what I do at work and what I do for the
24 City, and if I have that kind of problem and I'm
25 kind of a communications specialist in my job but

1 I'm having that kind of a problem, the average
2 user out there is going through the same thing.
3 And we need to have one method of dialing that is
4 consistent throughout the county. And that's not
5 what we have now. And you can take any area code
6 you want and whether you go ten-digit or
7 seven-digit, we prefer seven-digit, but make it
8 the same everywhere we are.

9 This overlay thing stinks, splitting the
10 county. And going multiple area codes, that
11 stinks. And people within the same community
12 having to make long distance calls to talk to
13 each other is very confusing. People in Daytona
14 can call De Land businesses for free, but De
15 Land's businesses have to pay a quarter to call
16 them back. I mean, it is not fair the way
17 business has to operate in this county. People
18 -- technicians working in Orange City have to
19 make a long distance call to call De Bary. They
20 can pick up their cell phone, and it's a cheaper
21 call.

22 Somebody needs to look at this, but we need
23 to get everybody playing the same game so that
24 the average person can pick up the phone and not
25 need a Bible to figure out how to make the phone

1 call. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Commissioner, as you are
3 aware, that that part of the state has several
4 difficulties. One is that when those territories
5 were charted out, we had four competing companies
6 in that area which abutted each other in empty
7 fields which are now cities. So clearly those
8 territories are very difficult to change in the
9 way that it's set up.

10 But I can offer you this, and I'm sure Mario
11 who's sitting right in front of you will probably
12 verify this, within the near future you're going
13 to find that most of the telecommunications
14 companies are going to be held to the same
15 standards as they're held today because we're
16 still working under judgments and orders that
17 complemented this as a monopoly business. And as
18 we move to its competition, you'll find that
19 where a competitor has thrown a loop, he no
20 longer has to -- (inaudible). The Bell Company
21 or competitor, a local exchange company --
22 dialing patterns and they will probably try to
23 serve you very directly and locally.

24 In fact, you'll notice that the long
25 distance factor, if there's one thing we can say

1 that works about competition is that every day
2 your long distance bill gets smaller. I know it
3 isn't in this part of the state. It's a problem
4 because we were delineated, but that will soon I
5 hope will be a nonfactor in many cases in terms
6 of dialing pattern. But thank you. We
7 appreciate your words.

8 MR. WEISS: In Volusia County as we've said
9 this morning we had an organization called the
10 Volusia Council of Government which all the
11 cities -- 16 members in the county are members.
12 This morning we've heard from the executive
13 director. This afternoon we have the chairman of
14 the VCOG organization, Bob Apgar who's also a
15 representative of the City of De Land.

16 MR. APGAR: Commissioners, my name is Bob
17 Apgar. I'm a resident of the City of De Land,
18 member of the De Land City Commission. I also
19 serve as the chairman of Volusia Council of
20 Government which as you've heard before is an
21 organization of all the cities in Volusia County
22 and the county.

23 We come together to discuss common problems
24 and issues. And obviously this has been a common
25 problem and issue of much discussion. As our

1 executive director advised you this morning, I
2 mean, he gave you a lot of the reasons behind it
3 and presented a resolution that was adopted, of
4 course, by the City of De Land, and individual
5 cities also adopted resolutions along the way.

6 Well, I've lived in Volusia County for a
7 long time, and quite frankly, this has had a very
8 unifying purpose for the county. It's one of
9 those good times that we've all come together,
10 pulled together on an issue. And I certainly
11 would urge you to help this unification of the
12 public bodies behind one idea, one concept to
13 come to its final fruition and granting those who
14 request of having Volusia County as included in
15 one area code.

16 I believe from earlier testimony you asked
17 something from the City of De Land or Jim
18 McCroskey, our economic development director was
19 to present some evidence, and he's here. And if
20 I may, I'd like to ask him to come up at this
21 point, present that evidence in the record and
22 answer any questions you may have about that.
23 Thank you very much for your time, and we welcome
24 you to Volusia County.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Commissioner.

1 MR. MCCROSKEY: We're seeing some -- Jim
2 McCroskey. Counsel asked for the regional office
3 of the Highway Patrol. We said if we split off
4 Deltona, that it would split that regional
5 office. Drawings, maps of the Florida Department
6 of Highways and the East Florida Regional
7 Planning, there's copies for all of you
8 (indicating).

9 THE CHAIRMAN: You know what you can do is
10 give it to her and then Mr. Ileri will take it.

11 MR. MCCROSKEY: Thank you (tendering).

12 MR. ILERI: Thank you very much. Appreciate
13 that.

14 MR. WEISS: One of the elements of Volusia
15 County that we promised would be present before
16 you is here this afternoon, the school district
17 of Volusia County. The school district
18 representative is --

19 MR. SLACK: Mark Slack. I'd like to
20 publicly first apologize for not being with you
21 this morning. We had planned on being here, but
22 we had a little problem come up, but you will
23 have one of our school board members with you
24 tomorrow in the Deltona area. They asked me if I
25 could come and represent them. We, as the other

1 cities and county government and other officials
2 that have spoken, have a number one priority of
3 one area code for this area. It would be our
4 preference, that it would be 904, but we
5 understand that may not be possible.

6 We, as a second priority, support
7 seven-digit dialing. And, of course, we're very,
8 very interested in -- I spoke with Doug Horn
9 yesterday. We service the entire district. We
10 are probably I think still the largest employer.
11 It's very difficult in the Deltona area. We try
12 to provide free call service to all of our
13 schools as well as our county office which means
14 that we have an enormous number of lines running
15 all over the district.

16 For our data service which is part of what
17 we have to deal with, we have to go to Orlando to
18 get back into that Deltona area. So we're in
19 that frame relay circuit, both in the Deltona
20 crowd and in the Orlando crowd.

21 The problem with that particular LATA over
22 in that area has created an enormous financial
23 burden on us as well as a logistical problem. So
24 we would implore you and we certainly support
25 what you've already heard from the cities and

1 from the county government, we just love to have
2 some relief there. We have enough problems with
3 our -- just trying to support those 60,000 plus
4 students that we don't want to have to go through
5 another hassle in reeducating those children and
6 our -- their parents on how to get a hold of us.
7 So I would appreciate your consideration.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

9 MR. WEISS: We had considerable
10 participation from our business community
11 throughout this process, both from the Halifax
12 area and De Land Chamber of Commerce. I'd like
13 to introduce two people that would like to speak
14 from the Daytona Beach/Halifax Chamber of
15 Commerce this afternoon. First, Lynn Fagan.

16 MS. FAGAN: Good afternoon. My name is Lynn
17 Fagan. I'm representing the Daytona
18 Beach/Halifax Area Chamber of Commerce as well as
19 the Motel/Hotel Association of Volusia County.

20 We're in support of everything you've heard
21 today; seven-digit dialing, and a single area
22 code. As you might know, the Volusia County area
23 has a large tourist contingency. Having to dial
24 10 digits to call a restaurant across the street
25 might be somewhat of a problem, more than

1 somewhat. So we're very much in support of
2 seven-digit dialing and hope that you will see
3 your way to give us our way. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: That reminds me, Staff should
5 also look at implementation plan to make sure
6 that when and if we decide to change area codes
7 in the Daytona area, to make sure it doesn't fall
8 in the middle of their tourist season which is
9 something we try to avoid when we did it in
10 Orlando. And, hopefully, we can avoid the
11 confusion during that time of year.

12 MR. WEISS: Also from the Halifax Area
13 Chamber of Commerce, Lloyd Collins.

14 MR. COLLINS: Chairman Garcia,
15 Commissioners, and Staff, my name is Lloyd
16 Collins, and I'm senior vice president of the
17 SunTrust Bank. However, today, I am representing
18 the area, Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce and
19 also a resident of Daytona Beach.

20 We at the Chamber of Commerce operate a
21 local government committee, and we meet weekly,
22 monthly to address all of the concerns of the
23 area.

24 We certainly would like to support the
25 creation of the single area code that would

1 encompass all of Volusia County and if we have to
2 look for a contiguous county, Flagler, that would
3 be fine. Maintaining current telephone numbers,
4 we would like to unite with our neighboring
5 counties in support of a single area code and
6 maintain the seven-digit dialing.

7 I might say in support of Commissioner
8 Travis, I'm going to call Mr. Bill France right
9 after the meeting and see if he would consider
10 changing the name of the race to the Daytona
11 501. That might be appropriate. I presume
12 that's why Commissioner Travis was saying that we
13 like the 500, that that would be a good number.
14 But we'll certainly work within the parameters
15 that are given to us.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: 499 might be --

17 MR. COLLINS: Well, they've been known to
18 run out of gas down the last lap, yes, that's
19 true. So we hope that the Commission does not
20 run out of gas and that you'll cross the finish
21 line and support what we hope to be a unanimous
22 decision for this county.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you very much.

24 MR. WEISS: From the Southeast Chamber of
25 Commerce, Donna Concannon.

1 MS. CONCANNON: Thank you very much for
2 having me here today. My name is Donna
3 Concannon, and I'm a native of New Smyrna Beach
4 representing the Southeast Volusia County Chamber
5 which does consist of approximately 700 members
6 and 4- to 6,000 employees.

7 As you've so eloquently have heard this
8 afternoon from so many people, Volusia County has
9 inconveniently been split for telephone calling
10 purposes since approximately 1984.

11 On behalf of the Chamber of the Southeast
12 Volusia, we ask that you would please give all of
13 Volusia and since we recognize that we are not
14 large enough to have our own area code and
15 Flagler County the same area code along with the
16 seven-digit calling. We really appreciate all of
17 you helping in that. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

19 MR. WEISS: The executive director of the
20 Ormond Beach Chamber of Commerce, Peggy Farmer.

21 MS. FARMER: Good afternoon. Thank you for
22 coming. My name is Peggy Farmer. I'm the
23 executive director of Ormond Beach Chamber of
24 Commerce.

25 Our board of directors has gone on record in

1 support of the position of VCOG and the County
2 Council in favor of one area code for Volusia
3 County. I think we're at a real positive
4 crossroads here. We have an opportunity to do
5 something very unifying and good for our total
6 business community in Volusia County where we can
7 all work together much easier.

8 Plus the size of Volusia County, you all
9 have the opportunity now to maybe not have to
10 come back and have another hearing in our
11 lifetime if we do this right. It's a nice-sized
12 county, and we want to --

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Don't mess with us because we
14 like this part of the state.

15 MS. FARMER: I think that the particular
16 position is this is really a chance to once and
17 for all unify Volusia County, and I think that's
18 a very positive opportunity here for us to come
19 and talk to you about it. Reading some of the
20 literature, I know I spoke to Mr. Garcia about
21 this just recently at the Duke Power presentation
22 you gave.

23 But I'd be really curious if there's
24 something we can do with a bigger picture since
25 all of you are here. I read about you having

1 these hearings all over the state; south,
2 Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and it's such an
3 emotional issue. We're just wondering if the
4 bigger picture is to get with our Florida
5 delegation and maybe go up to the numbering, what
6 is it, the North American numbering.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Let me tell you what we've
8 done about -- let me first talk about the bigger
9 picture because Commissioner Deason is too modest
10 to say it. Commissioner Deason foresaw this a
11 few years back when we did the 904 change, but he
12 didn't get three votes, though, to try to fix the
13 broader issue of knowing we would end up here.

14 That being the case as you have seen, and
15 there is a map that we've got 13 area codes,
16 clearly this is a new one that we have, and it is
17 a national problem. The FCC has an open docket.
18 I'm trying to resolve some of these numbering
19 issues.

20 And as you're aware, it's not even -- the
21 central issue is not of the phones, faxes, and
22 beepers. It's simply the way numbers are
23 allocated as being efficient. Because of that,
24 we're trying to use some of the limited criteria;
25 when we appeal to the Federal government for some

1 help, they give us some limited powers to try to
2 address those problems which we're going to try
3 to do in this docket as well as the others that
4 are open on this to try to help them.

5 But, clearly, it's something we're working
6 on. We have filed comments. It is something of
7 concern to the Federal government and to our
8 representatives.

9 In fact, Representative Mica was -- his
10 staffer was at a discussion that the National
11 Association of Regulatory Commissioners had in
12 D.C., in which I explained the big problem we're
13 having with area codes. So, clearly, it's
14 something they're aware of, and the Florida
15 delegation has been very helpful.

16 MS. FARMER: And if we can help on the
17 local, then let us know, okay?

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

19 MR. WEISS: Is Mr. Eddings from the Port
20 Orange/South Daytona Chamber of Commerce here?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. WEISS: Perhaps not. I believe that's
23 all the scheduled speakers. You're probably glad
24 to hear that. Again, we're glad to have you
25 here. We appreciate it. You have been very

1 gracious to us, and we're looking forward to,
2 again, tomorrow in Deltona.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: We're meeting in a stadium
4 tomorrow. Next speaker?

5 MR. BECK: Are there any other persons who
6 would like to speak?

7 MR. JAYNES: Thank you, Bob. Joseph Jaynes,
8 District 4 representative. I represent the
9 northeast part of Volusia County. That covers
10 Ormond-by-the-Sea which is unincorporated area,
11 Ormond Beach, Holly Hill, and the largest land
12 area portion of Daytona Beach, approximately
13 50,000 people. I appreciate your coming down and
14 having this hearing here for us today.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Sir, did you -- did I swear
16 you in?

17 MR. JAYNES: No.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Let me swear you in real
19 quick. It's not that you look less trustworthy;
20 it's that we swore in everybody else.

21 Is there anybody that spoke that hasn't
22 sworn in? If you want to speak, then -- well,
23 let's go ahead and do the representative just so
24 we have it on the record here. But you can stay
25 there; you don't need to move.

1 Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth,
2 the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

3 MR. JAYNES: Yes, sir.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you.

5 MR. JAYNES: One of the things that -- and,
6 of course, obviously you can tell from our
7 contention and the good job that Bob does in the
8 stacking room that we're very much in favor of
9 the seven-digit dialing, and, of course,
10 consolidation down to one area code for this
11 area.

12 I picked up on one thing that you-all began
13 with, and that was kind of this hint of, look at
14 Volusia County and you're asking questions about
15 Flagler County. Volusia County has in place a
16 solid waste agreement with Flagler County. All
17 of the solid waste generated within Flagler
18 County comes to the Volusia County landfill. And
19 I'm simply going to give you a couple of examples
20 here of the ties between Flagler County and
21 Volusia County.

22 Also, I guess from Daytona Beach Community
23 College northward, there is an extension campus
24 in Palm Coast of Daytona Beach Community College,
25 so there's a strong tie there on the educational

1 part of this. We've got a tie on the solid waste
2 part.

3 Federally approved foreign trade zone that
4 serves Daytona Beach International Airport
5 extends out to New Smyrna Beach, and De Land also
6 has a portion of it in Flagler County. And
7 that's something that we worked on in conjunction
8 so there's now an economic development tie there
9 between Flagler County and Volusia County as
10 well.

11 And, of course, I think Bob or someone else
12 presented you with a map which ties Flagler and
13 Volusia County into the East Central Florida
14 Regional Planning Council, not northward into
15 St. Johns County and so on.

16 So I just wanted to emphasize those points
17 that our ties with Flagler County are very
18 strong, and there's a lot of coordination and
19 cooperation that goes on between the Flagler
20 County Commission and the Volusia County
21 Council.

22 And I simply would want to clarify those
23 points and thank you for coming down here. I'll
24 just let you know I'm just another voice coming
25 out of the wilderness. We'd like one area code

1 for this area. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. I think that
3 concludes all the people who signed up. Is there
4 anyone else who wishes to say anything? Go right
5 ahead, and you'll have to come up to the mike.

6 MR. ESPIN: I just needed to add my two
7 cents worth of the marketing side and that of
8 technology, too.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on.

10 (Off the record.)

11 THE COURT REPORTER: And what was your name
12 again?

13 MR. ESPIN: Mario Espin.

14 THE COURT REPORTER: Espin, okay.

15 MR. ESPIN: A suggestion for area codes for
16 all of you to be able to take back with you, I
17 think 500 is available. I don't think the 0 is
18 an issue. I've been in the business for 30
19 years, and I certainly would technically argue
20 that we can use --

21 THE CHAIRMAN: New Star has put -- it puts
22 you in a great position of your knowledge. And
23 you want to speak with Mr. Foley from New Star
24 again because I think it may have been given or
25 it may be taken for some reason, but he's the one

1 you'll have to talk to, and clearly you'll join
2 in that conversation.

3 MR. ESPIN: I'll certainly volunteer any
4 input that I can. Chris can support this, though
5 she's not here any longer, but Commissioner
6 Travis would have supported this. I didn't speak
7 with Bill France, but the second choice he would
8 have had would have been USA, and that's 872. So
9 you guys might give -- and I know that's
10 available, so you might give that consideration,
11 USA. And I think it's area code -- it's not
12 Daytona 500; it's called Daytona USA.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much.
14 We appreciate it.

15 MR. ESPIN: Just thought I'd -- thank you.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Again, thank you very much.

17 MR. DEASON: I have just one comment --

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure.

19 MR. DEASON: I just want to take at this
20 point a moment and indicate that I've been
21 attending a lot of these type hearings on various
22 issues throughout the state for a number of
23 years, and it's almost unprecedented that we have
24 such a unified position team taken by such a
25 diverse group of individuals, including

1 government, business, and education on such a
2 complex issue.

3 And it's refreshing to -- we received your
4 message loud and clear, and you're to be
5 congratulated for taking the time and effort to
6 present your message, and I'm sure we'll hear it
7 again tomorrow in Deltona, too.

8 MR. JACOBS: I would echo those comments.
9 Having spent part of my life here, it is even
10 more impressive to me to see the way you've lined
11 up behind this issue, particularly on an issue
12 that too often is evasive (phonetic). So I want
13 to again congratulate you as well. And I'm just
14 sad to see Mayor Asher is not here. He would
15 have been the icing on the cake.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Let me just remind you, I'm
17 sure that you all know but just in case,
18 tomorrow's meeting is at 10:00 a.m. at -- it's
19 the Daytona -- Deltona hearing. It is at 1120
20 Elkcam Boulevard. It's at the Deltona Hills Golf
21 and Country Club. Thank you very much.

22 As you know, Representative Lynn's -- one of
23 her jobs is to keep the commission straight
24 because we are a legislative agency. She does a
25 good job of that; and, clearly, we appreciate

1 having you all here. Thank you again. We're
2 adjourned.

3 (Thereupon, the proceedings were concluded
4 at 5:00 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

1
2 STATE OF FLORIDA)

3 COUNTY OF VOLUSIA)

4 I, Sharon M. Dubberly, Court Reporter, RPR,
5 certify that I was authorized to and did
6 stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and
7 that the transcript is a true and complete record of
8 my stenographic notes.

9 DATED this 10th day of February, 2000.

10
11 *Sharon M. Dubberly*

12 SHARON M. DUBBERLY, COURT REPORTER

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NARUP, VOUVAKIS & ASSOCIATES
COURT REPORTERS

P.O. BOX 265009 - DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32126-5009

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