



## State of North Carolina Utilities Commission

COMMISSIONERS  
HUGH A. WELLS, Chairman  
WM. W. REDMAN, JR.  
CHARLES H. HUGHES

Post Office Box 29510  
Raleigh, N. C. 27626-0510

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSIONERS  
LAURENCE A. COBB  
ALLYSON K. DUNCAN  
RALPH A. HUNT  
JUDY HUNT

For Release: September 19, 1994

For Further Information Contact: Daniel Long - (919) 733-3969  
Mary Steel - (919) 733-3979

### NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION AUTHORIZES DISCOUNT CALLING PLANS FOR MONROE, ALTAN AND GOOSE CREEK TO CHARLOTTE

The North Carolina Utilities Commission today approved a discount calling plan arrangement for the Monroe, Altan and Goose Creek exchanges to the Charlotte exchange in lieu of non-optional, two-way EAS.

Under the discount calling plan GTE South's subscribers in the Monroe, Altan and Goose Creek exchanges will receive seven-digit dialing at approximately 60-70% off of the existing long distance toll rates. Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell) subscribers in the Charlotte exchange will receive seven-digit dialing at a 50% discount off of existing long distance toll rates. Southern Bell's plan also offers a premium flat-rate option for residence customers. Under the discount calling plans a typical five-minute call during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, for Monroe subscribers to call Charlotte will cost \$.29 as opposed to the existing \$1.03. A typical five-minute call during the same hours for Charlotte subscribers to call Monroe will cost \$1.50 as opposed to the existing \$1.03. Rates for the Monday-Friday 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. period and evening/night/weekend will be further reduced to reflect discounts for those periods, as well as specified holidays.

Petitions had been received by the Commission to approve an extended area service (EAS) plan for the Monroe, Altan and Goose Creek exchanges to the Charlotte exchange. In response, GTE filed a discount calling plan. A similar plan was filed by Southern Bell. In its Order the Commission stated that it was persuaded that the proposed discount calling plans are in the public interest and are a preferable alternative to non-optional, two-way EAS. The Order also stated that, the Commission's position is that while EAS is appropriate in many circumstances, in this case, the Commission believes that the discount calling plans proposed by GTE and Southern Bell are the more appropriate solution to the complex problem of the calling needs of these subscribers and the geographical context of the proposals.

Both GTE and Southern were ordered to provide to the Commission a timetable for implementation of such tariffs within 30 days of the date of the Order.

CHARGE FOR A 5 MINUTE CALL BETWEEN MONROE AND CHARLOTTE

	MON - FRI 8:00AM TO 12:00N AND 1:00PM TO 5:00PM	MON - FRI 12:00N TO 1:00PM AND 5:00PM TO 8:00PM	MON - FRI 8:00PM TO 11:00PM	EVERYDAY 11:00PM TO 8:00AM SAT 8:00AM TO 11:00 PM SUN 8:00AM TO 5:00 PM	SUN 5:00PM TO 11:00PM	SPECIFIED * HOLIDAYS
TOLL RATES	<u>\$1.03</u>	<u>\$0.77</u>	<u>\$0.77</u>	<u>\$0.51</u>	<u>\$0.77</u>	<u>\$0.77* OR \$0.51*</u>
GTE EXTENDED CALLING PLAN (MONROE TO CHARLOTTE)	\$0.29	\$0.29	\$0.29	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.14
SOUTHERN BELL EXTENDED CALLING PLAN (CHARLOTTE TO MONROE)	\$ .50	\$0.50	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25

\* SPECIFIED HOLIDAYS (CHRISTMAS DAY, NEW YEARS DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, THANKSGIVING DAY, LABOR DAY) ARE THE SAME FOR PRESENT TOLL RATES AND THE PROPOSED EC PLANS. THE CHARGE FOR A TOLL CALL ON A HOLIDAY DEPENDS ON THE DAY OF THE WEEK ON WHICH THE HOLIDAY FALLS AND ON THE TIME OF DAY THE CALL IS MADE.