## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Application for approval ) DOCKET NO. 960842-TX of control of Continental ) ORDER NO. PSC-96-1257-FOF-TX Florida Telecommunications, Inc., ) ISSUED: October 8, 1996 holder of Alternative Local ) Exchange Telecommunications ) Certificate No. 4404, from ) Contintal Cablevision, Inc. to ) U S West, Inc. )

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK, Chairman J. TERRY DEASON JOE GARCIA JULIA L. JOHNSON DIANE K. KIESLING

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF CONTROL

## 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 adversely affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Continental Florida Telecommunications, Inc., a Florida corporation (Continental-FL), holds Florida Public Service Commission Certificate No. 4404 to provide alternative local exchange telecommunications service. See Order No. PSC-96-0293-FOF-TX, issued February 27, 1996.

Continental-FL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Continental Telecommunications Corp. (Continental-TC), which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Continental Cablevision, Inc. (Continental). Continental is the third-largest cable television system operator in the United States. Continental is a joint applicant for approval of the transfer of control of Continental-FL through the contemplated transaction described below.

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On February 27, 1996, Continental and U S WEST, Inc. (U S WEST), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (Merger Agreement) under which Continental is to merge with and into a subsidiary of U S WEST, with the U S WEST subsidiary continuing after the merger as the surviving corporation. U S WEST is a joint applicant in this application; a copy of the Merger Agreement is attached as Attachment B in the application.

U S WEST is a diversified global communications company, conducting its operations through U S WEST Media Group (U S WEST-MG) and U S WEST Communications Group (U S WEST-CG). U S WEST-CG is a Regional Bell Operating Company, providing telecommunications services to more than 25 million residential and business customers in the 14 states listed in response to Question No. 11 of the application. U S WEST-MG is comprised of:

- (i) cable and telecommunications network operations outside of U S WEST-CG's 14-state region and internationally;
- (ii) domestic and international wireless communications network operations; and
- (iii) domestic and international directory and information services operations, including telephone directories.

Continental and U S WEST contemplate that Continental will be operated as a unit of U S WEST-MG after the merger. The terms of the Merger Agreement call for U S WEST to acquire from Continental shareholders all of the stock and assets of Continental in exchange for cash or stock in U S WEST and U S WEST-MG or both cash and stock. The Merger Agreement calls for closing of the planned transaction when the requisite regulatory and other approvals are obtained, providing for such closing to occur as early as November 15, 1996.

As a result of this exchange, U S WEST will hold all of the stock of Continental and, necessarily, all of the stock of Continental-TC and Continental-FL. Upon completion of the transaction as planned, control of Continental-FL will be transferred to U S WEST. The merger will have no effect on the legal status of Continental-FL, nor on its books and records. Continental and U S WEST intend that the day-to-day operations of Continental will continue to be handled by the same experienced management group now in control of Continental.

Upon consideration, we find that the terms and conditions of services offered by these companies will not be affected by this transaction.

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Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission the transfer of control of Continental Florida Telecommunications, Inc., holder of Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications Certificate No. 4404, from Continental Cablevision, Inc. to U S WEST, Inc. is hereby approved as outlined in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that, unless a person whose interests are substantially affected by the action proposed herein files a petition in the form and by the date specified in the Notice of Judicial Review, below, the certificate shall become effective on the following date and this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 8th day of October, 1996.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

MCB/NSR

## 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.

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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, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on October 29, 1996.

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 substantially 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.