## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida
Public Service Commission of IXC
Certificate No. 7428 issued to
FairPoint Communications
Solutions Corp. for violation of
Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C.,
Regulatory Assessment Fees;
Telecommunications Companies.

DOCKET NO. 020703-TI ORDER NO. PSC-03-0137-AS-TI ISSUED: January 27, 2003

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

LILA A. JABER, Chairman J. TERRY DEASON BRAULIO L. BAEZ RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY CHARLES M. DAVIDSON

## ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

## BY THE COMMISSION:

FairPoint Communications Solutions Corp. (FairPoint) currently holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 7428, issued by the Commission on May 30, 2000, authorizing the provision of Interexchange Telecommunications service. The Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services advised our staff that FairPoint had not paid the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) required by Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, for the year 2001. Also, accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for late RAFs payments for the year 2001 had not been paid. FairPoint was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 30, 2002.

Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAFs of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-4.0161(2), Florida Administrative Code, the form and

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applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by January 30 of the subsequent year. Pursuant to Section 350.113(4), Florida Statutes, the RAFs forms, for the period of January 1, through December 31, are mailed to entities at least 45 days prior to the date that payment of the fee is due. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing Interexchange Telecommunications service.

On August 8, 2001, Docket No. 011060-TI was established for nonpayment of the 2000 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF). On January 24, 2002, Order No. PSC-01-2259-AS-TI was reissued, which accepted the company's \$300 settlement. The Order was originally issued on November 19, 2001, but FairPoint was not provided a copy of the Order. The omission was discovered on January 23, 2002, therefore, the Order was reissued to provide the company adequate notice to comply. The company subsequently paid the \$300 settlement and the docket was closed.

On October 31, 2002, we issued Order No. PSC-02-1487-PAA-TI to impose a \$500 penalty. Failure to comply or respond to this Order would have resulted in the cancellation of FairPoint's certificate.

On November 20, 2002, Fairpoint proposed a settlement for Order No. PSC-02-1487-PAA-TI. In its settlement Fairpoint offered to make a \$500 contribution to the State General Revenue Fund. FairPoint has since paid its 2001 RAFs, including accrued statutory penalties and interest charges. Further, Fairpoint has paid the \$500 contribution, and has proposed to pay future RAFs on a timely basis.

We believe that the terms of the settlement agreement represent a fair and reasonable resolution of this matter. Accordingly, we hereby accept the settlement offer. The contribution will be forwarded to the Department of Financial Services for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336, 364.337, and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

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ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that FairPoint Communications Solutions Corp.'s settlement proposal set forth in the body of this Order is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the \$500 settlement contribution will be transmitted to the Department of Financial Services for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>27th</u> Day of <u>January</u>, <u>2003</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Directo

Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services

(SEAL)

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## NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), 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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Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal Director, Division of the Commission the Clerk Administrative Services 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 after the issuance 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.