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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMM.
DIVISION OF APPEALS

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October 20, 1995

Ms. Blanco S. Bayo
Director, Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Docket No. 950918-TX

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed please find five copies of LDDS Worldcom's comments in Docket No. 950918-TX RE: Proposed Rules Governing Telephone Service Provided by Alternative Local Exchange Companies. Please acknowledge receipt of this document by stamping the extra of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Sulmonetti
Director, Regulatory Affairs

CC: Richard Tudor, FPSC

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
10367 OCT 20 1995
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Proposed Rules Governing Telephone Service)
Provided by Alternative Local Exchange Companies)
Creating Part XV, 25-24.800, F.A.C., Et. Seq., and)
Proposing Amendment to Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C.,)
Regulatory Assessment Fees;)
Telecommunications Companies)

Docket No. 950918-TX

Filed: October 20, 1995

COMMENTS OF LDDS WORLDCOM

Pursuant to Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC") Order 95-1190-NOR-TX in Docket No. 950918-TX issued on September 20, 1995, Worldcom, Inc. d/b/a LDDS Worldcom ("LDDS Worldcom") hereby submits the following comments regarding the proposed rules governing telephone service for alternative local exchange companies ("ALECs").

LDDS Worldcom, as stated at the agenda conference and in our responses to the data request in this docket (dated August 21, 1995), believes that the Commission needs to amend the proposed rule to include switched access as part of the required services that have to be filed in a "price list." At this time, LDDS Worldcom specifically proposes the following (additions to the proposed rule as indicated by the underlined text):

25-24.825 Price Lists.

(1) Prior to providing service, each company subject to these rules shall file and maintain with the Commission a current price list which clearly sets forth the following information for basic local telecommunications services, as defined in s. 364.02 (2), F.S. and switched network access services. If basic local telecommunications service is offered on a package basis, the following information must be provided for the package:

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At the agenda conference, the FPSC Staff had no objection to adding this service to the "price list" requirements. LDDS Worldcom believes it would be a tragic oversight not to include a monopoly service such as switched access in the price list requirement. This requirement would not place any additional burden on the ALECs, would ensure the principle of nondiscrimination, and would be consistent with current FCC rules. LDDS Worldcom is not opposed to the notice period of one day or the method of filing the price lists. However, we believe that the ALECs must file their switched access rates with the Commission.

As it is well known, switched access will remain a monopoly service for the interexchange carrier ("IXC") even with the introduction of local competition. IXCs must terminate calls through the end user's chosen local provider. The provision of switched access is bundled with the end user's choice of a local provider. IXCs will not have competition for switched access for the foreseeable future. The monopoly status of this service is clear from the experience in Maryland, Georgia, and Michigan where the new entrants have mirrored the incumbent's rates for switched access, and ACC-Syracuse actually charges' access rates that are higher than NYNEX. This evidence is proof that there will be no price competition for switched access and that this Commission needs to continue its regulatory oversight of this monopoly service.

LDDS Worldcom believes switched access must be provided in a nondiscriminatory manner and requiring ALECs to file prices for this service is a minimal safeguard against discrimination. This Commission still has the authority and duty to protect against discrimination. Our suggested change would provide a simple tool for the Commission to prevent discrimination.

LDDS Worldcom supports the thrust of the proposed rules, however in order to protect against discrimination we believe switched access services provided by ALECs should be in the price list. The cost of such an expanded price list would be insignificant, especially since there is only a one day notice period and ALECs will have to file a tariff at the FCC for all their interstate access services. Therefore, LDDS Worldcom urges the Commission to adopt our proposed amendment to Rule 25-24.825. Our amendment is essential to the continued FPSC oversight of a monopoly service.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Sulmonetti
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