Commissioners: E. LEON JACOBS, JR., CHAIRMAN J. TERRY DEASON LILA A. JABER BRAULIO L. BAEZ MICHAEL A. PALECKI



DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE SERVICES WALTER D'HAESELEER DIRECTOR (850) 413-6600

## Public Service Commission

January 3, 2001

Ms. Tara Rodriguez ConnectAmerica, Inc. 1842 Centre Point Drive, Suite 128 Naperville, IL 60563-4851

Re: Docket No. 001285-TI

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

This is a follow up to our telephone conversation concerning the above docket. The regulatory assessment fee (RAF) is due each year by January 30 for the previous year, unless the 30th falls on a weekend, then the due date is the next working day. For example, the 1999 fee was due January 31, 2000 and the 2000 fee will become due January 30, 2001.

Commission records show that as of this date, the 1999 RAF has not been paid. The 1999 and 2000 RAF returns are attached. Please complete and return them along with your check for the past due amount in full. The RAF is .0015% of your total Florida gross revenues, or \$50.00, whichever is greater. However, if you owe only the minimum amount and if your check is postmarked by January 25, 2001, the 1999 total is \$68.50 (\$50.00 fee, \$12.50 penalty, and \$6.00 interest). I would like to point out that in 1998, your company paid more than the minimum. Our records also show that you have a penalty (\$24.50) and interest (\$4.90) balance in the amount of \$29.40 from 1998 that needs to be paid.

On December 21, 2000, Order No. PSC-00-2465-PAA-TI was issued, which imposed a \$500 fine or cancelled your certificate. According to the Order, ConnectAmerica must protest the Order by January 11, 2001. At this point, you have three options.

Cancel the certificate voluntarily - Pay all past due charges in full, pay the **(1)** current year's RAF or provide a date certain that it will be paid (such as 30 days from the date of the Commission Order cancelling your certificate), and write a letter requesting cancellation and reference the docket number. A copy of our rule is attached.

- (2) Do nothing In this case, your certificate will be cancelled on the Commission's own motion. All outstanding RAFs, including penalty and interest charges, will be turned over to the Comptroller's Office for collection.
- (3) File a petition for a formal proceeding in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, F.A.C., copy attached. This petition must be filed with the Commission by the end of the protest period (January 11). Rule 28-106.201(2)(g) states that the petition must include "A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action." This means that you may wish to propose a settlement. If you propose a settlement, your petition must include the following:
- Docket number;
- A check for the past due amount in full;
- A statement that it has taken steps to prevent future late payments of the regulatory assessment fees; and
- Make a specific monetary settlement.

Any settlement offer should be addressed to Ms. Blanca Bayó, Director, Division of Records and Reporting, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850. The proposed settlement amount should <u>not</u> be paid at this time, instead only the past due regulatory assessment fee, plus penalty and interest charges should be paid. The settlement amount, if approved by the Commission, will become due after the Commissioners vote on this issue.

If you file a timely petition proposing a settlement, a new Agenda Conference date will be scheduled. At that time, the Commissioners will vote on whether or not to accept your settlement offer. An Order will then be issued and you will have 10 business days from the date of the Order to pay the settlement.

Please let me know what your decision is by January 11, 2001. If you have any questions, just let me know. I can be reached at (850) 413-6502-voice, (850) 413-6503-fax, and by internet e-mail at pisler@psc.state.fl.us.

Ms. Tara Rodriguez Page 3 January 3, 2001

Sincerely,

Paula J. Isler, Research Assistant

Mula J. Liler

Bureau of Service Evaluation & Compliance

Enclosures

cc: Docket No. 001285-TI

Division of Legal Services (Walker)

# Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return with the filed on or seffore 01 31,2000. Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

| STATUS:  Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return  PERIOD COVERED: 01/01/99 TO 12/31/99 |   |  | Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)  TJ012  ConnectAmerica, Inc. 1842 Centre Point Drive, Suite 128  Naperville, IL 60563-4851 |                      |   | FOR PSC USE ONLY  Check#                             |  |
|--|---|--|--|----------------------|---|--|--|
|  |   | ConnectAmeric<br>1842 Centre Po  |  |                      |   |  |  |
|  |   | Please Complete Be   | elow If Official M   | ailing Address Has   | Changed                                 | initials of Preparer                                 | <del></del>                                |
|  | (Name of Company)   |  | (Add   | ress)                | <del></del> .                           | (City/State)   | (Z <sub>1</sub> p)                         |
| 2. Ac. 3. Pri 4. Lea 5. Mii 6. TO 7. LE (see 8. TO 9. Reg 10. Per 11. Intt 12. TO            | ng Distance Services cess Services vate Line Services axed Facilities & Circu scellaneous Services  TAL Telephone Serv SS: Amounts Paid to ( e "2. Fees" on back)  TAL REVENUES For gulatory Assessment For laity for Late Payment erest for Late Payment erest for Late Payment and AMOUNT DUE units must be intrasta  AS PROVIDE  sed Carrier | ther Telecommunications Com Regulatory Assessment Fee Communications and Communications Communications Communications Communications Communication (see "3. Failure to File by Due 1. Ite only and must be verifial to IN SECTION 364.336, | alculation<br>015)<br>Dame* on back)<br>Dame* on back)   |                      | INIMUM ANN                              | \$\$<br>\$\$<br>S\$<br>IUAL FEE IS \$50              |  |
| Complete below   | of bolling agent if other   |  | ILLING INFO  | RMATION              |   |  |  |
| (Name) What is the total amount of customer deposits collected? Amount: \$ for 19            |   |  | (Addre   | us: City/State/Zip)  |   | amount of bond held                                  |  |
| Address:  I, the undersus a true and corre   | ct statement. I am awan   | ities? () YES () NO  | ve read the forego   | ing and declare that | to the best of my<br>y makes a false st | knowledge and belief the atement in writing with the | above information<br>the intent to mislead |
| (  | Signature of Company  | Official)  |  | ,                    | ide)                                    |  | (Date)                                     |
| (Prepa   | rer of Form - Ple   | ease Print Name)   |  | phone Number (       | _)                                      | Fax Number (   | )  |
|  |   |  | F. <b>E</b> .  | I. No                |   |  |  |

PSC/CMU-153 (Rev. 11/11/99)

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Instructions For Filing Regulatory Assessment Fee Return (Interexchange Company)

1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

> On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, AND On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0015 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls originating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts other than the amount in Line 7.

On Line 7, deduct any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. Do not deduct any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. DEDUCTIONS MUST BE INTRASTATE ONLY AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 10). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 11). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. EXTENSION: A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed Request for Extension to File Regulatory Assessment Fee Return form (PSC/ADM-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due:

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. FEE ADJUSTMENTS: You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any fee adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your files, and return the original and in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. Make your check payable to the Florida Public Service Commission. If you are unable to use the envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE: If you need additional assistance in preparing your Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, please contact the Division of Auditing and Financial Analysis at (850) 413-6480.

For assistance on telecommunications facilities, please contact the Division of Communications at (850) 413-6502.

Both divisions may be contacted at the above-referenced address, directing correspondence to the attention of the division.

TO AVOID PENALTY AND INTEREST THARGES THE REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE RETURN MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE 01/30/2001

Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

| STATUS:   | Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)   |                                   |  | FOR PSC USE ONLY  |  |  |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return PERIOD COVERED: 01/01/2000 TO 12/31/2000  | TJ012 ConnectAmerica, Inc. 1842 Centre Point Drive, Suite 128 Naperville, IL 60563-4851   |                                   |  | \$060:<br>00:<br>\$060:<br>004<br>\$I                                   |  |  |
| ·   | Please Complete Below If Official   | Mailing Address Has C             | banged                                   | Initials of Preparer  |  |  |
| (Name of Company)   | (A  | (ddress)                          | <del></del>                              | (City/State) (2   |  |  |
| LINE NO. ACCOUNT CLASS  | IFICATION   | FLORIDA<br>GROSS OPERATING        | •"                                       | INTRASTATE REVENUI  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>Long Distance Services</li> <li>Access Services</li> <li>Private Line Services</li> <li>Leased Facilities &amp; Circuits Services</li> <li>Miscellaneous Services</li> </ol>                                 |   | S                                 |  | s   |  |  |
| (see "2. Fees" on back)  8. TOTAL REVENUES For Reg  9. Regulatory Assessment Fee Dr  10. Penalty for Late Payment (see 11. Interest for Late Payment (see 12. TOTAL AMOUNT DUE  * These amounts must be intrastate or | Telecommunications Companies* ulatory Assessment Fee Calculation ie (Multiply Line 8 by 0.0015)  "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back  nly and must be verifiable.  N SECTION 364.336, FLORIDA S | k)                                |  |   |  |  |
|   | CURRENT COM   | DANV STATUS                       |  |   |  |  |
| ( ) Facilities-Based Carrier<br>( ) Alternate-Operator Service  | ( ) Reseller<br>( ) Rebiller  | ( ) Call Aggregator<br>( ) Other: |  |   |  |  |
| Complete below if bulling agent if other than   | BILLING INF   | FORMATION                         |  |   |  |  |
| (Name) What is the total amount of customer deposit Amount: \$ for 19   |   | dress: City/State/Zip)            |  | (Telephone) amount of bond held (if applicable) Expires:                |  |  |
| Do you lease telecommunications' facilities?  If YES, who do you lease these facilities fro  Address:   |   |                                   |  |   |  |  |
| I, the undersigned owner/officer of the a<br>is a true and correct statement. I am aware that<br>a public servant in the performance of his/he  | bove-named company, have read the for<br>pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Stan<br>er duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor   | ites, whoever knowingly           | the best of my kn<br>makes a false state | nowledge and belief the above informent in writing with the intent to n |  |  |
| (Signature of Company Offi  |   | . (Tit                            | •  | (Date)  |  |  |
| (Preparer of Form - Please  | Print Name)   | elephone Number (                 |  |   |  |  |

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Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE: If you need additional assistance in preparing your Regulatory Assessment Fee Return or regarding telecommunications facilities, please contact the Division of Competitive Services at (850) 413-6600. This division may be contacted at the above-referenced address, directing correspondence to the attention of the division.

### 25-24.474 Cancellation of a Certificate.

- (1) The Commission may on its own motion cancel a company's certificate for any of the following reasons:
- (a) Violation of the terms and conditions under which the authority was originally granted;
- (b) Violation of Commission rule or order; or
- (c) Violation of Florida Statutes.
- (2) If a certificated company desires to cancel its certificate, it shall request cancellation from the Commission in writing and shall provide the following with its request.
- (a) Statement of intent and date to pay Regulatory Assessment Fee.
- (b) Statement of why the certificate is proposed to be cancelled.
- (c) A statement on treatment of customer deposits and final bills.
- (d) Proof of individual customer notice regarding discontinuance of service.
- (3) Cancellation of a certificate shall be ordered subject to the holder providing the information required by subsection (2).

Specific Authority 350 127(2) FS. Law Implemented 350 113, 350.127(1), 364 285, 364.337, 364.345 FS. History--New 2-23-87, Amended 3-13-96.

## PART II HEARINGS INVOLVING DISPUTED ISSUES OF MATERIAL FACT

## 28-106.201 Initiation of Proceedings.

- (1) Unless otherwise provided by statute, initiation of proceedings shall be made by written petition to the agency responsible for rendering final agency action. The term "petition" includes any document that requests an evidentiary proceeding and asserts the existence of a disputed issue of material fact. Each petition shall be legible and on 8 ½ by 11 inch white paper. Unless printed, the impression shall be on one side of the paper only and lines shall be double-spaced.
  - (2) All petitions filed under these rules shall contain:
- (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- (b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination;
  - (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency decision;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action.
- (3) Upon receipt of a petition involving disputed issues of material fact, the agency shall grant or deny the petition, and if granted shall, unless otherwise provided by law, refer the matter to the Division of Administrative Hearings with a request that an administrative law judge be assigned to conduct the hearing. The request shall be accompanied by a copy of the petition and a copy of the notice of agency action.
- (4) A petition shall be dismissed if it is not in substantial compliance with subsection (2) of this rule or it has been untimely filed. Dismissal of a petition shall, at least once, be without prejudice to petitioner's filing a timely amended petition curing the defect, unless it conclusively appears from the face of the petition that the defect cannot be cured.
- (5) The agency shall promptly give written notice to all parties of the action taken on the petition, shall state with particularity its reasons if the petition is not granted, and shall state the deadline for filing an amended petition if applicable.

Specific Authority 120.54(3), (5) FS. Law Implemented 120.54(5), 120.569, 120.57 FS. History-New 4-1-97, Amended 9-17-98.

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 01/03/2001 11:16 NAME : FAX : TEL :

DATE,TIME FAX NO./NAME DURATION PAGE(S) RESULT MODE

01/03 11:11 918004456726 00:04:56 09 OK STANDARD ECM