BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for certificate to provide alternative local exchange telecommunications service by American Fiber Systems, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 001717-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-01-0563-PAA-TX
ISSUED: March 12, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE TO
PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

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

American Fiber Systems, Inc. (AFS) has applied for a certificate to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications (ALEC) service, pursuant to Section 364.337, Florida Statutes. Upon review of its application, it appears that AFS has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service. Accordingly, we hereby grant to AFS Certificate No. 7769 which shall authorize it to provide ALEC services throughout the State of Florida.

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If this Order becomes final and effective, it shall serve as AFS's certificate. AFS should, therefore, retain this Order as proof of certification. The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.335 and 364.337, Florida Statutes.

ALEC providers are subject to Chapter 25-24, Florida Administrative Code, Part XV, Rules Governing Telecommunications Service Provided by Alternative Local Exchange Companies. ALEC providers are also required to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 25-4, Florida Administrative Code.

Pursuant to Section 364.337(2), Florida Statutes, basic telecommunications service provided by an ALEC "... must include access to operator services, "911" services, and relay services for the hearing impaired." Further, Section 364.337(2), requires that an ALEC's "911" service "... shall be provided at a level equivalent to that provided by the local exchange telecommunications company serving the same area."

In addition, under Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAFs) of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. A RAFs Return notice will be mailed each December to AFS for payment in January. Neither the cancellation of the certificate nor the failure to receive a RAFs Return notice shall relieve AFS from its obligation to pay RAFs.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby grant Certificate No. 7769 to American Fiber Systems, Inc., which shall authorize it to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall serve as American Fiber Systems, Inc.'s certificate and should be retained by American Fiber Systems, Inc. as proof of certification. It is further

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ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this <u>12th</u> day of <u>March</u>, <u>2001</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

WDK

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 that is available under Section 120.57, 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 will be granted or result in the relief sought.

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Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, 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 April 2, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

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.