BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida Public Service Commission of Interexchange Telecommunications Certificate No. 2494 issued to Group Long Distance, Inc. for violation of Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies. DOCKET NO. 001207-TI ORDER NO. PSC-01-0904-AS-TI ISSUED: April 9, 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

ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

Group Long Distance, Inc. (Group Long Distance) obtained Certificate No. 2494 on February 12, 1992, to provide Interexchange Telecommunications services. Group Long Distance had not paid the 1999 Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs). Also, accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for late RAFs payments for the year 1999 had not been paid. RAFs are required by Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code.

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 applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by January 30 of the subsequent year. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing Interexchange Telecommunications services.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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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. Group Long Distance was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 31, 2000.

After this docket was opened, on September 5, 2000, Ms. Kelli Muhammad, representative of Telecom Compliance Services (TCS), Group Long Distance's consultant, contacted our staff and advised that payment had been made. On January 22, 2001, we received a letter from TCS explaining what had occurred, stated that it had taken steps to prevent this from happening in the future, and proposed to use to pay future regulatory assessment fees using the returns provided by the Commission. TCS apparently uses its own RAF returns for its clients. When completing Group Long Distance, Inc.'s RAF return for its IXC and ALEC certificates, TCS typed the ALEC company code for both returns. The Division of Administration posts the payments using the company code on the RAF returns. Therefore, both payments for the 1999 RAF had been posted to the ALEC certificates.

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 Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336, 364.337, and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Group Long Distance, Inc.'s settlement proposal set forth in the body of this Order is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that this docket is closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>9th</u> day of <u>April</u>, <u>2001</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director Division of Records and Reporting

By: Kay Flynn, Chief

Bureau of Records

(SEAL)

KMP

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.

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 Records and Reporting, 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 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 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.