



# NOW COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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April 21, 2001

Florida Public Service Commission  
Consumer Request  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**VIA FAX: 850-413-7168 (3 pages) and  
VIA Federal Express**

**Re: TelStar International, Inc., d/b/a "TelStar Long Distance, Inc.", Company Code TJ027,  
Consumer Inquiry #372035T**

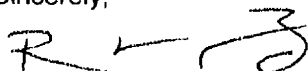
On behalf of TelStar International, Inc. ("TelStar"), this responds to the above inquiry, the first page of which is enclosed with this letter.

**First, NOW Communications, Inc.<sup>1</sup> purchased all of the common stock of TelStar International, Inc. in October, 2000.** At that time, TelStar was primarily engaged in providing prepaid resold local exchange service in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, and NOW purchased TelStar to further build NOW's prepaid local exchange customer base. NOW was not aware that TelStar possessed *valid* operating authority by this Commission to provide resold interexchange services in the State of Florida. NOW was aware that at one time, TelStar had such authority, but was led to believe that such authority had either been withdrawn or revoked, and that TelStar never exercised its operating authority in Florida. Thus, since NOW believed there was no longer a TelStar in Florida, notice of the purchase was not made to the Commission.

**Regarding the complaint: The Commission is asking the wrong TelStar about the prepaid calling card billing issue.** NOW's TelStar, as of October 2000, has not and does not provide prepaid calling card services in Florida. The customer inquiry provided a copy of the calling card in question. The card has "WorldStar" on the front, and "WorldStar" on the back, with service provided by "TCI", and has a website at [www.tciphonecards.com](http://www.tciphonecards.com). There is no connection to NOW's TelStar. There is no WorldStar or TCI registered with this Commission. I think the way the staff person receiving the inquiry from the customer connected it to a "TelStar" was this - when calling the customer service number on the card, 1-877-6PAYLESS, the greeting states "Welcome to Calls For Less, powered by TelStar". But, the "TelStar" in issue is this one: <http://www2.scri.net/psc/mcd/TJ491.html>, a "Telstar International, Inc., d/b/a Telstar USA, Inc.", company code **TJ491**. A copy of that company's information, as shown by this Commission's website, is enclosed with this letter.

Therefore, we have not contacted the customer regarding this matter since it is not our customer. Also, by separate filing, NOW will request the cancellation of the certificate of authority to provide resold interexchange services held by TelStar International, Inc. d/b/a TelStar Long Distance, Inc., company code TJ027. Please contact me directly if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,



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<sup>1</sup> NOW is certificated by this Commission to provide alternative local exchange services (Authority No. T-98-0351, Cert. No. 5652) and interexchange services (Authority No. T-98-0350, Cert. No. 5653).