PRESIDENT



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STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

c/o the florida legislature 111 west madison st. ROOM 812 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-1400 850-488-9330



August 28, 2003

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 030867-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and 15 copies of Citizens' Motion to Expedite Discovery Process.

Please indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed duplicate of this letter and return it to our office.

Sincerely

H F. Mann

Associate Public Counsel

HFM:bsr

Enclosures

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08063 AUG 288

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition by Verizon Florida, Inc.
To Reduce Its Network Access Charges
Applicable To Intrastate Long Distance
In A Revenue-Neutral Manner

Docket No. 030867-TL Filed: August 28, 2003

<u>CITIZENS' MOTION TO EXPEDITE DISCOVERY PROCESS</u>

The Citizens of Florida ("Citizens"), through the Office of Public Counsel and pursuant to Rules 28-106.204, 28-106.206, and 28-106.211, Florida Administrative Code, hereby file their motion seeking the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") to expedite the discovery process in the instant proceeding. In support of this request, Citizens state that:

- 1) On August 27, 2003, Verizon Florida, Inc. ("Company") filed its petition with the Commission, pursuant to section 364.164, Florida Statutes (2003), to reduce its network access charges applicable to intrastate long distance in a revenue-neutral manner.
- 2) Florida Rules of Civil Procedure Rules 1.340, and 1.350, provide guides for the discovery that will be conducted by parties to this proceeding. The time set by these rules for response to be made to interrogatories and requests for production of documents is within thirty (30) days of service to the responding party.
- 3) This proceeding, however, presents unique circumstances that must be addressed at the outset - that is, section 364.164(1) establishes an extremely limited time frame for conclusion of the proceeding. The statute provides that once a local exchange telecommunications company petitions this

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Commission to reduce its intrastate switched network access rates in a revenueneutral manner, the Commission shall issue its final order either granting or denying such petition within 90 days.

- 4) In order for the Citizens and Commission Staff, as well as any other Intervenor to obtain discovery of crucial information necessary to present to this Commission to enable the Commission to reach a fair, just, and well-reasoned decision within that 90-day period, it is of paramount necessity to expedite the discovery process provided by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 5) Rules 28-106.206, and 28-106.211, provide that the Prehearing
 Officer may issue appropriate orders to effectuate the purposes of discovery and
 to prevent delay. Accordingly, Citizens urge the Prehearing Officer to order the
 following regarding discovery requests:
- a) All discovery requests shall be served by hand delivery, electronic mail, or facsimile, with a hard copy to follow immediately by U.S. Mail or hand delivery.
- b) When discovery requests are served and the respondent intends to either object to, or seek clarification of, the discovery requests, the objection or request for clarification shall be made by hand delivery, electronic mail, or facsimile within five business days of service of the discovery request, with a hard copy to follow immediately by U.S. Mail or hand delivery.
- c) Because discovery responses must be expedited to allow parties and the Commission Staff an adequate opportunity to review the information, all responses to interrogatories, and where practicable, production of documents, shall be served by hand delivery, electronic mail, or facsimile, within 10 calendar

days after service of the request, with no additional time for mailing, with a hard copy to follow immediately by U.S. Mail or hand delivery.

WHEREFORE, Citizens urge the Prehearing Officer to issue an order, as suggested above, expediting discovery procedures in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES J. BECK Interim Public Counsel

H F. Rick Mann Associate Public Counsel

Florida Bar #0763225

Office of Public Counsel C/o The Florida Legislature 111 W. Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-140 (850) 488-9330

Attorneys for Florida's Citizens

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DOCKET NO. 030867-TL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S.

Mail or hand-delivery to the following parties on this 28th day of August. 2003.

H F. Mann

Beth Keating, Esquire Division of Legal Services Fla. Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Tracy Hatch AT&T 101 North Monroe, Suite 700 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Donna McNulty MCI WorldCom, Inc. 1203 Governors Square Blvd. Suite 201 Tallahassee, FL 32301-2960 Richard Chapkis Vice President & General Counsel Verizon Florida, Inc. 201 North Franklin Street, FLTC0717 Tampa, FL 33601

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