

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida
Public Service Commission of
Alternative Local Exchange
Telecommunications Certificate
No. 5187 issued to Easton
Telecom Services Inc. for
violation of Rule 25-4.0161,
F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment
Fees; Telecommunications
Companies.

DOCKET NO. 981968-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-99-0947-AS-TX
ISSUED: May 11, 1999

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition
of this matter:

JOE GARCIA, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

Easton Telecom Services Inc. (Easton) currently holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5187, issued by the Commission on July 25, 1997, authorizing the provision of alternative local exchange telecommunications service. The Division of Administration advised our staff by memorandum that Easton had not paid the 1997 regulatory assessment fees (RAFs), nor statutory penalties and interest charges for late RAFs payments for the year 1997. RAFs are required by Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code.

Under Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAF of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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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 alternative local exchange telecommunications service and an affidavit in which the applicants attest that the rules have been received and understood by the applicant. This affidavit must be attached to the application in order for the application to be processed. The RAF form was sent by certified mailed to Easton for the period of January 1, 1997, through December 31, 1997, and the signed receipt was returned to us indicating that delivery was accomplished on December 15, 1997.

After this docket was opened, our staff received a call from Mr. Patrick Crocker, who stated that the company would pay all the past due charges and that it would propose a settlement offer. Easton paid all the past due statutory penalties and interest charges, and submitted a settlement offer. Easton agreed to pay future regulatory assessment fees in a timely manner and contribute \$100 to the State General Revenue Fund.

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. Easton must comply with these requirements within five business days from the date this Order becomes final. The contribution will be forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. Upon remittance of the \$100 contribution, this docket shall be closed.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Easton Telecom Services Inc.'s settlement proposal summarized in the body of this Order is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that Easton Telecom Services Inc. shall comply with the provisions of its approved settlement proposal within five (5) business days from the date that this Order becomes final.

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending receipt of the \$100 contribution. The contribution shall be transmitted to the Comptroller for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund. It is further

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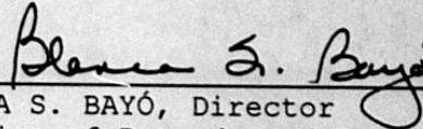
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ORDERED that upon receipt of the \$100 contribution, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 11th day of May, 1999.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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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.