

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida
Public Service Commission of
Alternative Local Exchange
Telecommunications Certificate
No. 7103 issued to Essex
Communications, Inc. d/b/a eLEC
Communications for violation of
Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C.,
Regulatory Assessment Fees;
Telecommunications Companies.

DOCKET NO. 001478-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-01-0213-AS-TX
ISSUED: January 23, 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:

Essex Communications, Inc. d/b/a eLEC Communications (eLEC) obtained Certificate No. 7103 on August 16, 1999, to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications (ALEC) service. eLEC 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. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing ALEC service.

Pursuant to 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. The RAFs form was mailed to eLEC for the period of January 1 through December 31.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION

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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. eLEC was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 31, 2000.

After this docket was opened, on September 27, 2000, Ms. Nancy Beck, representative of eLEC, called our staff and advised that the past due amount would be paid, and eLEC would propose a settlement offer. On November 1, 2000, we received the 1999 RAFs, including accrued statutory penalties and interest charges, and a settlement proposal. eLEC offered to contribute \$100 to the State General Revenue Fund, and proposed to pay future RAFs on a timely basis.

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. eLEC must comply with these requirements within ten business days from the date this Order becomes final. The contribution should be identified with the docket number and the company name. Upon timely receipt, 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. If eLEC fails to comply with this Order, its certificate will be cancelled administratively. Upon remittance of the \$100 contribution or cancellation of the certificate, this docket shall be closed. The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336 and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Essex Communications, Inc. d/b/a eLEC Communications's settlement proposal set forth in the body of this Order is hereby approved. It is further

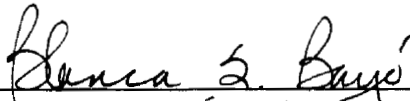
ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending receipt of the \$100 contribution. The contribution will be transmitted to the Comptroller for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund. It is further

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ORDERED that if Essex Communications, Inc. d/b/a eLEC Communications fails to comply with this Order, its certificate will be canceled administratively. It is further

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

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 23rd day of January, 2001.



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

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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.