BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Initiation of show cause proceedings for failure to file 1988 annual reports: DOCKET NO. 890559-TI AMERISYSTEMS PARTNERSHIP DOCKET NO. 890560-TI CHATCO COMMUNICATIONS, INC. MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION DOCKET NO. 890568-TI DOCKET NO. 890571-TI DOCKET NO. 890572-TI DOCKET NO. 890573-TI ST. JOE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.) SOUTHLAND FIBERNET, INC. SOUTHLAND SYSTEMS, ORDER NO. 21428 ISSUED: 6-22-89

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL McK. WILSON, Chairman THOMAS M. BEARD BETTY EASLEY GERALD L. GUNTER JOHN T. HERNDON

ORDER ESTABLISHING 45-DAY PERIOD FOR PAYING FINE IN SETTLEMENT OF APPARENT RULE VIOLATION

BY THE COMMISSION:

Rule 25-24.480, Florida Administrative Code (the Rule), requires that each interexchange carrier (IXC) file reports with this Commission. The reports, due on January 31st of each year, require basic company information as well as construction and capacity data.

On December 19, 1988, Staff sent a memorandum to all certificated IXCs directing their attention to the Rule. The memorandum included a copy of the Rule, and a "fill in the blank" annual report form to help simplify the IXC's task. On February 9, 1989, Staff sent a second notice to 49 IXCs that failed to respond to the initial letter by the required January 31, 1989 filing date. The second letter warned the IXCs that if they did not comply with the Rule and submit an annual report, the Commission would impose a fine or possibly cancel their certificates. Again, this letter included a copy of the Rule and an annual report form, as well as the name of a Staff member who would be available to answer any questions the IXC may have. The IXCs listed in the caption of this Order filed their 1988 reports beyond the January 31, 1989 deadline.

We will not tolerate disregard of our rules by regulated utilities. Pursuant to Section 364.285, Florida Statutes, we find it appropriate to impose a \$4,000 fine on these IXCs for their apparent failure to file annual reports in a timely manner. If by July 14, 1989, they pay \$2,000, we will suspend the remaining \$2,000 until the 1989 report is due on January 31, 1990. If the 1989 report is filed late, the late-filing IXCs will be required to pay the suspended portion of this fine as well as any additional fines that we may impose for that violation. An IXC's acceptance of this settlement offer by

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paying the \$2,000 fine shall be deemed as acceptance of our condition that the suspended \$2,000 portion of the fine shall become due upon that IXC's failure to file its 1989 report on time. Moreover, we reserve judgement as to the proper amount of the additional fines that may be imposed for violating the Rule next year.

MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI) submitted two responses in Docket No. 890568-TI, alleging that our Staff was unduly harsh in recommending that the company be fined \$4,000. MCI proposes instead that we impose a \$4,000 fine with \$1,500 being payable within 30 days and the balance being suspended. Further, MCI proposes that the balance be forgiven if the company files its completed 1989 annual report on time. Because of the action taken herein, MCI's requests are moot.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that each interexchange carrier listed in the caption of this Order may elect to comply with the requirements established in this Order in settlement of the apparent violation of Rule 25-24.480, Florida Administrative Code. It is further

ORDERED that the docket concerning any interexchange carrier listed in the caption of this Order shall be closed when that carrier complies with the conditions established in the body of this Order by July 14, 1989. It is further

ORDERED that the docket concerning any interexchange carrier listed in the caption of this Order shall remain open for further proceedings if that carrier elects not to comply with the conditions established in the body of this Order by July 14, 1989. It is further

ORDERED that the requests submitted by MCI Telecommunications Corporation in Docket No. 890568-TI are hereby dismissed as moot.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this <u>22nd</u> day of <u>JUNE</u>, <u>1989</u>.

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director Divison of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

DLC

by: Kay Flyn
Chief, Bureau of Records

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by

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Section 120.59(4), 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 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 or sewer 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.