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August 12, 1996

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records & Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 980837-TP

MFS Communications Company, Inc. Petition for Arbitration Pursuant to
47 USC Section 252(b) of Interconnection Rates, Terms and Conditions
with GTE Florida Incorporated

Dear Ms. Bayo:

It is the understanding of GTE Florida Incorporated (GTEFL) that MFS Communications Company, Inc. (MFS) has or will be withdrawing its Petition for Arbitration against GTEFL. This petition is being withdrawn pursuant to a stipulation entered between the parties. Since MFS will be withdrawing its petition, GTEFL does not intend to file its Direct Testimony in response to MFS' Petition. Under the present procedural schedule, this testimony was due today, August 12, 1996.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (813) 228-3087.

Very truly yours,

Anthony P. Gillman

APG:tas

A part of GTE Corporation

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

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