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GTE FLORIDA INCORPORATED
REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF DENNIS B. TRIMBLE
DOCKET NO. 960847-TP

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BY WHOM YOU ARE EMPLOYED.

A. My name is Dennis B. Trimble and I am the Assistant Vice President - Marketing Service (Acting) for GTE Telephone Operations ("GTE" or "the Company"). In that capacity I am responsible for, among other matters, analyzing the demand characteristics of GTE's regulated product offerings and developing costs, prices and associated tariff filings for all of GTE's regulated services, inclusive of tariff filing activity with the FCC. My experience and qualifications have been submitted as part of my Direct Testimony filed in this docket on September 10, 1996.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to explain why the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) should not give any consideration to using the default proxy rates proposed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its *First Report and Order* issued in CC Docket No. 96-98 on August 8, 1996. Specifically, I address four basic points: (a) to describe the nature

1 of the cost studies that GTE submitted in the FPSC's proceeding
2 No. 950985-TP, and that are referenced in the *First Report and*
3 *Order* (at ¶¶ 793, 808) and why such studies were misused by
4 the FCC; (b) to describe the magnitude of GTE's estimates of total
5 joint and common costs that have resulted from the procedures
6 employed by the Company in the development of its various Total
7 Service Long Run Incremental Cost ("TSLRIC") estimates as
8 submitted in various state proceedings; (c) to compare the results
9 of cost studies prepared using the FCC's prescribed methodology
10 (i.e., Total Element Long Run Incremental Cost or "TELRIC") that
11 GTE has completed with the FCC's mandatory proxy price ceilings
12 which shows that the TELRIC costs are not covered by the proxy
13 rates even before common costs are considered; and (d) to
14 demonstrate generically the shortfall GTEFL will experience by
15 comparing the revenues that would be obtained using the FCC's
16 proxy prices from an average customer (average residence or
17 business) service in GTEFL service area to both the revenues
18 generated from elements priced at GTEFL's TELRICs and to
19 current average per line revenues.

20
21 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE FCC'S *FIRST REPORT AND ORDER***
22 **NOTED ABOVE?**

23 **A.** Yes. I have reviewed in detail the FCC's *First Report and Order*
24 issued on August 8, 1996. Among other things, that order establishes
25 a framework of national rules implementing the local competition

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provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("Act") and adopts default proxy ceiling prices that are to be used in an arbitration proceeding as the price for unbundled network elements and resold services unless a state regulatory agency has completed its review of studies that comport to the FCC's prescribed, new costing methodology (at ¶¶ 789-827).

Q. DID THE FCC PROPERLY CALCULATE THE PROXY RATES EVEN UNDER ITS OWN METHODOLOGY?

A. No. As the attached Exhibits DBT-6 and DBT-7 demonstrate, when GTE adheres to the FCC's prescribed costing methodology, the costs that result are much higher than the mandatory proxy ceiling prices. Specifically, GTE's loop costs average at least 50 percent larger than the FCC's ceiling price, and GTE's unbundled end office switching costs average at least two-and-a-half times the FCC's price ceiling of \$0.004 per minute, even when all possible switching features and functions are not included. Moreover, as Exhibit DBT-7 shows, when GTE compares the revenues that would be obtained from the FCC's proxy prices to either the revenues from elements priced at the TELRICs computed by GTE or to current revenues per line, it is clear that a large gap exists. It is also obvious that the effective discount from the equivalent retail service price using the FCC proxy prices is much larger than the discount ceiling established by the FCC for resold services.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FLORIDA COST STUDIES AND WHY
2 THEY DO NOT SUPPORT THE DEFAULT AND PROXY RATES
3 ESTABLISHED BY THE FCC.

4 A. The cost studies that GTE submitted in the FPSC's Docket No.
5 950985-TP were only intended to identify the TSLRIC cost of local
6 loops (both bundled and unbundled) and end office switching. As
7 described below, there are substantive differences between the
8 methodology used in GTE's Florida study and the FCC's TELRIC
9 methodology. The results of GTE's Florida study cannot in any way
10 be construed to produce a result that approximates a TELRIC-based
11 cost that would be appropriate for use in deriving a proxy cost ceiling.

12
13 The FCC has prescribed that the pricing of network elements shall be
14 based on the TELRIC of the element plus a reasonable share of
15 forward looking joint and common costs. See § 51.505. The FCC
16 further defines a reasonable share of forward looking joint and
17 common costs in the development of unbundled network element
18 prices to depend on many factors including the Stand Alone Cost
19 ("SAC") of the element, market demand characteristics, as well as the
20 overall magnitude of the company's forward looking common costs.
21 *First Report and Order at ¶¶ 694, 695, 696, 698, 699.*

22
23 GTE defines TSLRIC as well as "TELRIC" as the additional cost
24 incurred by the Company to produce the entire output of a particular
25 service or "element", holding constant the production of all other

1 services produced by the Company. While this definition is similar to
2 the FCC's implied definition of TELRIC, the FCC has stated that many
3 of the costs that are correctly defined as joint and common costs in
4 the development of TSLRICs can be directly attributed to specific
5 network elements in the development of TELRICs. *First Report and*
6 *Order* at ¶¶ 678, 682, 694. Thus, the FCC's definition of TELRIC
7 should result in cost estimates that are larger than the TSLRIC for the
8 specific network function that is being studied.

9

10 **Q. CAN YOU QUANTIFY THE MAGNITUDE OF GTE'S JOINT AND**
11 **COMMON COSTS?**

12 A. GTE's current TSLRIC/TELRIC methodology for services and
13 unbundled elements includes the following expenses: (a)
14 depreciation, (b) return on investment, (c) income taxes, (d) plant
15 specific maintenance and repair, (e) central office land and buildings,
16 (f) customer operations (e.g., sales), and (g) miscellaneous fees and
17 taxes (e.g., ad valorem tax, gross receipts tax). GTE's
18 TSLRIC/TELRIC methodology does not include the following expense
19 items (they are considered common expenses to the Company): (a)
20 plant specific expenses (e.g., network support, general support, and
21 general purpose computers), (b) plant non-specific expenses (e.g.,
22 network planning, engineering), (c) general support assets (e.g.,
23 furniture, office support equipment, company communications
24 equipment, and general purpose computers), (d) land and buildings
25 (other than central offices), (e) indirect labor, (f) corporate expenses,

1 and (g) other taxes and fees, such as local franchise taxes, federal
2 superfund taxes, local and state business license and occupation
3 taxes). It is not unusual for these expense categories to represent
4 from 35% to 45% of the Company's total accounting costs.

5
6
7 The total amounts in these common cost categories are appropriately
8 excluded from GTE's TSLRIC/TELRIC studies because GTE's USOA-
9 based accounting system records do not contain sufficient information
10 to directly attribute (if appropriate) any of these expenses to specific
11 network elements, and/or there is not a cost-causative method to
12 associate these to specific elements of the network. The USOA-
13 driven accounts, which GTE has identified as representing common
14 costs, might include many items that are, in reality, service (or
15 element) specific. However, as I have previously stated, those costs
16 cannot be separately identified because the USOA-based accounting
17 system does not contain a level of detail sufficient to allow direct
18 attribution of those costs to their appropriate service (or network
19 element). Thus, the USOA-based accounting processes limit GTE
20 from identifying any remaining costs that may belong in the FCC's
21 definition of TELRIC. However, even if GTE possessed an elaborate
22 (and expensive) managerial accounting system that facilitated the
23 direct assignment (when appropriate) of these common costs to
24 specific network elements, this capability would only result in a minor
25 change in the level of GTE's "total" common costs. I believe that the

1 USOA accounts that GTE currently incorporate in its TSLRIC studies
2 represent a vast majority of all directly assignable costs.

3
4 Paragraph 694 of the *First Report and Order* states: "Certain common
5 costs are incurred in the provision of network elements. As discussed
6 above, some of these costs are common to only a subset of the
7 elements or services provided by the incumbent LEC's. Such costs
8 shall be allocated to that subset, and should then be allocated among
9 the individual elements of services in that subset, to the greatest
10 possible extent" (*Emphasis added*). GTE's TSLRIC/TELRIC studies
11 do not attempt to perform this allocation of common costs. Allocation
12 of these common costs to specific products for recovery is
13 accomplished through GTE's pricing activities, not through GTE's
14 incremental costing activities. Thus, GTE's TSLRIC/TELRIC
15 methodologies (as currently employed) will lead to incremental cost
16 estimates that are likely to be substantially below what the FCC
17 intended to be incorporated in the development of TELRICs. It is my
18 belief that the FCC has relied upon benchmark prices (and/or costs),
19 as filed in various states, that do not incorporate an allocation of
20 common costs, and thus only represent the incremental cost of a
21 network element and not the total, average cost of that element.

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23

24 **Q. DO GTE'S COST STUDIES INCORPORATE JOINT AND COMMON**
25 **COSTS?**

1 A. As I stated previously, the methodology GTE currently employs to
2 develop its TSLRIC/TELRIC estimates does not incorporate
3 significant levels of joint and common costs. These costs must be
4 recovered through the pricing of services. For Florida, as submitted
5 in my direct testimony (Exhibit DBT-2), GTE Florida's forward looking
6 joint and common costs are approximately \$500 million annually
7 which equates to 65% of the total costs identified in GTEFL's filed
8 TSLRIC/TELRIC estimates. (Thus, GTEFL's total economic costs
9 could be recovered by pricing all network elements so that they
10 achieved an average 65% markup over their TSLRIC/TELRIC
11 estimates).

12

13 **Q. HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC ERRORS ASSOCIATED WITH**
14 **THE FCC'S USE OF THE FLORIDA LOOP COST STUDIES?**

15 A. In the development of its unbundled loop proxy price (ceiling price) for
16 Florida, the FCC weighted the interim 2-wire unbundled loop rates for
17 Bell South (\$17.00) and United/Centel (\$15.00) and the approved
18 rate for GTE (\$20.00) as set by the FPSC and computed a state-wide
19 average price of \$17.28 based upon the Florida figures. *First Report*
20 *and Order* at ¶¶ 792, 793. The FCC assumed that the rates ordered
21 by the FPSC were rational proxies for TELRIC plus a reasonable
22 allocation of forward-looking common costs. But, GTEFL's approved
23 rate of \$20.00 provides only an insignificant contribution to common
24 costs (approximately 2% above GTEFL's filed TSLRIC/TELRIC
25 estimate and far below the average 65% that would be required in

Florida). The FPSC's order that prescribed GTEFL's \$20.00 unbundled loop rate specifically stated "that GTEFL's rates for unbundled loops shall approximate TSLRIC" (Docket No. 950984-TP, Order No. PSC-96-0811-FOF-TP, page 31). There was no recognition of reasonable contribution to forward-looking common costs, as discussed by the FCC.

United/Centel's cost study for an unbundled loop was found by the FPSC to be inadequate to support the development of rates for an unbundled loop as the costs could not be identified as either LRIC or TSLRIC estimates. Based on judgment, the FPSC set an interim rate of \$15.00 for United/Centel and also ordered United/Centel to complete appropriate cost studies (Docket No. 950984-TP, Order No. PSC-96-0811-FOF-TP, p. 32). The FCC assumed that the \$15.00 rate set by the FPSC is a reasonable depiction of United/Centel's TELRIC plus "reasonable allocation of forward-looking common costs" as is required by § 51.505(a)(2). But as noted above, in setting loop rates the FPSC did not include any reasonable contribution to forward-looking common costs.

Likewise, the FPSC found Bell South's filed cost studies for unbundled elements to be deficient which led the FPSC to set an interim rate of \$17.00 for Bell South's unbundled 2-wire loop. Bell South was also ordered to file cost studies to support the

1 development of a permanent unbundled loop rate (Docket No.
2 950984-TP, Order No. PSC-96-0444-FOF-TP, p. 19).

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4 To meet its own criteria, the FCC's proxy prices should be
5 constructed to reasonably reflect statewide average TELRIC plus a
6 "reasonable allocation of forward-looking common costs." However,
7 in the development of Florida's proxy price for unbundled 2-wire loops
8 the FCC relied on FPSC ordered rates. Of the three rates used by
9 the FCC, only GTE's rate had any accepted cost support. Moreover,
10 even GTE's rate did not contain any reasonable contribution as
11 toward joint and common costs as required under the FCC's own
12 pricing guidelines. § 51.505 The FPSC's ordered rates were
13 intended to have little or no contribution above TSLRIC. When this
14 fact is combined with the fact that TELRIC should be higher than
15 TSLRIC (*First Report and Order* at ¶ 678), the obvious conclusion is
16 that the proxy ceiling of \$17.28 that the FCC found the studies
17 produce for Florida is too low and that it cannot be construed to be an
18 estimate of TELRIC plus a "reasonable allocation of forward-looking
19 common costs" as is required by § 51.505(a)(2). But the FCC did not
20 use this rate. Instead, its proposed proxy ceiling rate for Florida of
21 \$13.68 is apparently calculated from another model using the
22 unweighted approved Florida rates as a scaling factor. (*Id.* at ¶ 794)
23 The FCC's proxy ceiling for unbundled loops in Florida can only be
24 considered arbitrary and inappropriate.

25

1 Q. HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC ERRORS ASSOCIATED WITH
2 THE FCC'S USE OF FLORIDA'S UNBUNDLED SWITCHING COST
3 STUDIES?

4 A. For unbundled switching, the FCC defined the local unbundled
5 switching element to encompass line-side and trunk-side facilities
6 plus all of the features, functions, and capabilities of the switch. (*Id.*
7 at ¶ 412) The line-side facilities include the connection between a
8 loop termination at, for example, a main frame distribution frame
9 (MDF), and a switch line card. The trunk-side facilities include the
10 connection between, for example, trunk termination at a trunk-side
11 cross-connect panel and a trunk card. The "features, functions, and
12 capabilities" of the local switch include the basic switching function of
13 connecting lines to lines, lines to trunks, trunks to lines, trunks to
14 trunks. It also includes the same basic capabilities that are available
15 to the incumbent LEC's customers, such as a telephone number,
16 directory listing, dial tone, signaling, and access to 911, operator
17 services, and directory assistance. In addition, the local switching
18 element includes all vertical features that the switch is capable of
19 providing, including custom calling, CLASS features, and Centrex, as
20 well as any technically feasible customized routing functions.

21
22 In the *First Report and Order* (at ¶ 803), the FCC discusses the
23 estimates of the cost for end-office switching. The FCC also
24 discusses the costs and rates for transporting and terminating traffic
25 for interconnection purposes and concludes, that a range between

1 0.2 cents (\$0.002) per minute of use and .4 cents (\$0.004) per minute
2 of use for unbundled local switching is a reasonable default proxy.
3 (*Id.* at ¶¶ 805-809, 811) Thus, the FCC reasoned: “We, therefore,
4 conclude that 0.2 cents (\$0.002) per minute of use is a reasonable
5 lower end of the price for end-office switching.” (*Id.* at ¶ 812)

6
7 A review of the record relied upon by the FCC in determining the
8 range of proxy rates for the unbundled local element defined in §
9 51.513 for local switching demonstrates that the FCC used
10 incomplete data for the costs for end-office switching and local
11 interconnection. The costs for the functions that support the rates for
12 end-office switching and local interconnection simply do not match
13 the description of the unbundled local switching element the FCC has
14 laid out. (*First Report and Order* at ¶ 412) The cost studies on which
15 the FCC relied measure only the incremental cost of end office
16 switching for local interconnection. End office switching used for local
17 interconnection only includes the basic switching function of
18 connecting lines to trunks and trunks to lines. There is no cost or rate
19 evidence in the record regarding the remaining features, functions,
20 and capabilities of the switch that are included in the FCC’s definition
21 of the unbundled switching element. By relying on studies that take
22 into account the cost of only a fraction of the switching element as
23 defined in the rules, the FCC has established an unreasonably low
24 proxy rate for the local switching element.

25

1 **Q. CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FCC'S**
2 **TELRIC COSTS AND GTE'S STUDY FILED IN FLORIDA**
3 **REGARDING UNBUNDLED END OFFICE SWITCHING?**

4 **A. For unbundled end office switching, the difference between the FCC's**
5 **objective TELRIC costs and the GTE study filed in Florida are**
6 **significant. These crucial differences are:**

7

8 **a. First and foremost, the GTE study did not attempt to determine**
9 **the cost of unbundled end office switching that would be used**
10 **by a requesting party to provide local exchange service. The**
11 **study determined only the incremental costs associated with**
12 **terminating an additional minute of use when two networks are**
13 **interconnected for the purpose of exchanging traffic;**

14

15 **b. At the time GTE filed its study in Florida it did not have the**
16 **procedures in place to identify the fixed costs associated with**
17 **central office land and buildings. As a result, these expenses**
18 **were not included in GTE's TSLRIC/TELRIC filed in Florida.**
19 **This expense item, which is now included on a going-forward**
20 **basis in GTE's TSLRIC/TELRIC studies, is a significant**
21 **contributor to the average cost of end-office switching. Central**
22 **office land and buildings expenses can account for up to 60%**
23 **of the total TSLRIC/TELRIC of end-office switching; and**

24

25

1 c. As discussed previously, GTE's procedure for estimating
2 TSLRICs/TELRICs tends to exclude costs (which GTE has
3 termed as joint and common) that properly belong in what the
4 FCC defines as TELRIC/TELRIC. Again, this further supports
5 the conclusion that GTE's TSLRIC estimates, as filed in
6 Florida, are likely to dramatically understate what the FCC
7 would term a TELRIC estimate, and would be far less than an
8 estimate of TELRIC plus "a reasonable allocation of forward-
9 looking common costs." § 51.505(a)(2).

10

11 Thus, the numbers on which the FCC relied upon are too low
12 because they were based on GTE Florida filed estimates. *First*
13 *Report and Order* at ¶ 808. By relying on such figures that did not
14 include all of the costs included in the FCC's own TELRIC
15 methodology, the FCC has picked a benchmark number for end-office
16 switching costs that is significantly under-stated.

17

18 **Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN ILLUSTRATION?**

19 A. To illustrate this fact, an analysis prepared under my direction
20 compares the FCC's proxy ceiling price for unbundled switching to the
21 actual cost of providing that unbundled feature. This was done by
22 selecting two typical local central office switches and determining the
23 cost per year to operate those switches. The costs are for
24 maintenance, support structures, capital costs, and an average
25 distribution of overheads. These are all costs that the FCC has

1 specified as being appropriate for inclusion in unbundled elements.
2 See *First Report and Order* at ¶¶ 682, 691. These current costs were
3 reduced by 17% of total revenues based upon the FCC's estimate of
4 costs that would be avoided if an ILEC were not in the retail business.
5 (From the studies I have reviewed, I believe the costs avoided are
6 less than this amount, but this amount was used to base the analysis
7 on the FCC's own cost avoidance projection). The appropriate unit
8 of analysis is the entire central office switch, because the FCC
9 specified the party obtaining a unit of unbundled switching will also
10 have access to all of the features and functions of the switch. The
11 results of the switching cost analysis are shown on Exhibit DBT-5.

12

13 **Q. DO THE FCC'S DEFAULT AND PROXY RATES COVER GTE'S**
14 **TELRIC COSTS?**

15 **A.** No. The switching cost analysis shows that, at a price per minute
16 ranging from \$.002 to \$.004 (the FCC specified proxy ceiling price),
17 the total revenue that would be generated by applying those prices to
18 all local and access minutes of use falls well short of recovering the
19 actual costs of providing the unbundled switching element (depicted
20 by "% UNRECOVERED USING PROXY" line on Exhibit DBT-5).
21 The shortfall results from a reliance by the FCC upon cost studies
22 presented to, or decisions made by, state commissions that were
23 designed to estimate the incremental cost of switching one
24 minute of calling exchanged between two networks that are
25 interconnected.

1 GTE's TELRIC cost studies are based upon the methodology
2 prescribed by the *First Report and Order* (at ¶¶ 672-702). GTE
3 first calculated the direct forward-looking cost of each network
4 element. GTE then determined the common costs that could not be
5 attributed to any particular element or sub-group of elements.
6 According to the FCC's methodology, these latter costs are to be
7 allocated to all network elements during the pricing process.

8
9 The *First Report and Order* specified (at ¶ 744) that the rate for
10 unbundled local loops be a flat, per-month charge. Further, the FCC
11 specified (at ¶ 794, Appendix D) the statewide average ceiling price
12 that a state regulatory agency could adopt in an arbitration
13 proceeding unless the state commission had completed its review of
14 cost studies that comport to the FCC methodology. Exhibit DBT-6
15 shows the results of the GTE cost studies for loops in several states
16 where GTE serves a large number of customers. The cost developed
17 using a TELRIC methodology averages 50 percent larger than the
18 FCC's proxy ceiling price. This difference clearly supports my
19 conclusion that the FCC's loop proxy price is arbitrary and
20 inappropriate because it is based upon a mixture of cost estimates for
21 only the bare incremental cost of a loop, rather than being based
22 upon a TELRIC methodology. Further, to assure a proper
23 comparison, neither the proxy price nor the GTE TELRIC results
24 described above include any allocation of common costs as the
25 FCC's own cost methodology requires.

1 The *First Report and Order* specified (at ¶ 412) that the unbundled
2 local switching network element is to include not only line-to-line and
3 line-to-trunk "basic switching," but also all of the features, functions,
4 and capabilities, such as a telephone number, directory listing, dial
5 tone, signaling, and access to 911, operator services and directory
6 assistance, all vertical features including custom calling and CLASS
7 features, Centrex, and any technically feasible customized routing
8 functions. The unbundled local switching rate structure is required to
9 include "a combination of a flat-rated charge for line ports, which are
10 dedicated to a single new entrant, and either a flat-rate or per-minute
11 usage charge for the switching matrix and for trunk ports, which
12 constitute shared facilities, best reflects the way costs for unbundled
13 local switching are incurred." *Id.* at ¶ 810. Unless a state regulatory
14 agency has completed its review of cost studies that comport with the
15 FCC's costing methodology, state agencies are required (*Id.* at ¶ 815)
16 to set the rate for unbundled local switching "so that the sum of the
17 flat-rated charge for line ports and the product of the projected
18 minutes of use per port and the usage-sensitive charges for switching
19 and trunk ports, all divided by the projected minutes of use, does not
20 exceed 0.4 cents (\$0.004) per minute of use and is not lower than 0.2
21 cents (\$0.002) per minute of use."

22

23 Exhibit DBT-7 compares the FCC's proxy price for unbundled local
24 switching to the results of cost studies prepared by GTE using the
25 FCC's TELRIC methodology. Shown are GTE's cost estimates for

1 three end office switching cost elements for a number of states where
2 GTE serves a large number of customers. Those elements are: (i) a
3 per minute cost to switch a call; (ii) a per line per month cost for the
4 non-usage sensitive components of a switch (e.g., line card); and (iii)
5 a per line per month cost for a representative feature package. The
6 cost element of a per line, per month cost for the feature package was
7 chosen to comply with the FCC's mandate that a rate structure
8 recover costs "in a manner that efficiently apportions costs among
9 users." *First Report and Order* at ¶ 755. It is very important to note
10 that the feature package selected for illustrative purposes does not
11 include all of the features, functions and capabilities that a switch may
12 be capable of providing. The package selected includes only many
13 of the most commonly used features (e.g., Call Waiting, Emergency
14 Bureau Access, Speed Calling, Time of Day Routing). Also not
15 included in any of the three cost estimates in Exhibit DBT-7 are the
16 costs associated with a directory listing or the more esoteric switch
17 features such as customized routing and Meet-Me Conference
18 Bridging. The feature package used in calculating the cost for two
19 states shown in DBT-7, Ohio and Wisconsin, did include additional,
20 more advanced features, just to show the potential cost impact on a
21 per minute basis.

22
23 To provide a logical comparison, GTE converted the two per line, per
24 month cost elements into an equivalent per minute cost by dividing by
25 the average switched minutes of use per month, including minutes

1 associated with both local and long distance calls. The result of this
2 calculation is a composite TELRIC per minute cost that is three-and-a
3 half times the FCC's upper price ceiling of \$0.004, even when
4 ignoring the two states with feature packages that include
5 extraordinary features. These results confirm my conclusion that the
6 FCC's local switching proxy price was based upon information that
7 estimated the incremental cost of line-to-line or line-to-trunk basic
8 switching, but did not, as the FCC's own methodology requires,
9 include either the costs related to other switch features and functions,
10 or common costs.

11

12 **Q. IF THE DEFAULT AND PROXY RATES ARE IMPLEMENTED IN**
13 **FLORIDA, WILL GTE EXPERIENCE A REVENUE SHORTFALL?**

14 **A.** Exhibit DBT-8 compares the FCC's proxy price for a combination of
15 unbundled local switching and an unbundled local loop (*i.e.*, the
16 reassembled equivalent of local service) to both the results of a GTE
17 Florida ("GTEFL") TELRIC study, and to current average revenues
18 per line in Florida. To prepare this comparison, GTE derived the
19 average monthly usage per line, including local and toll minutes of
20 use, for an average of residence and business lines. This average
21 number of minutes was multiplied by the FCC's proxy price ceiling of
22 \$0.004 per minute, and that switched usage revenue amount was
23 added to the flat rate components that would also be needed to
24 comprise reassembled local service (*i.e.*, a local loop and a Network
25 Interface Device, or "NID"). GTE also derived the current revenues

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per line for an average of Florida residence and business lines, including flat rate local charges, local and toll usage charges, and vertical feature charges. When the unbundled network elements of switching, a loop and a NID are combined to replicate local service, the revenues from those elements when priced at the FCC's proxy rates are approximately half of GTEFL's TELRIC for the combined service (Exhibit DBT-8, \$18.55 compared to \$37.31 per month). This comparison of price to cost understates the shortfall, because by definition TELRIC does not include an allocation of common costs. Further, the FCC's proxy prices would provide new entrants with approximately a 40 percent discount off GTEC's current average retail revenue per line in California (Exhibit DBT -8, \$18.55 compared to \$31.25 per month). Clearly neither the FCC proxy price nor the TELRIC methodology come anywhere close to providing revenues that cover GTE's cost of providing service.

Moreover, the 40 percent discount that results from the FCC proxy price cannot be squared with the FCC's interim wholesale rates. Section 51.611 of the FCC's rules requires that resale discounts should be "no more than 25 percent." Thus, the FCC's proposed requirements for its two pricing mechanisms (resale and unbundling) are totally inconsistent. The potential discount is significantly below the Company's costs and would result in GTE subsidizing competitive entry.

1 Based upon my and my staff's review of the FCC's *First Report and*
2 *Order*, I am convinced that the FCC's proxy price ceilings for
3 unbundled loops and local switching are significantly understated and
4 in absolute conflict with §§ 51.319(c)(1)(C), 51.503 and 51.505.

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6 **Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

7 **A. Yes, it does.**

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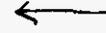
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CENTRAL OFFICE ANALYSIS

ITEM	SAN ANGELO SE		AZLE	
	@ .004/MIN	@ .002/MIN	@ .004/MIN	@ .002/MIN
LINES	17,458	17,458	6,619	6,619
SWTCH INVESTMENT	\$7,045,234	\$7,045,234	\$3,210,000	\$3,210,000
MINUTES/MONTH	10,893,753	10,893,753	11,811,072	11,811,072
ANNUAL COSTS				
OPERATING EXPENSES				
MAINTENANCE	\$569,748	\$569,748	\$259,593	\$259,593
ADMIN AND OVERHEAD	\$1,003,101	\$1,003,101	\$457,039	\$457,039
DEPRECIATION	\$177,188	\$177,188	\$80,732	\$80,732
RETURN ON INVEST.	\$778,498	\$778,498	\$354,705	\$354,705
COMPOSITE TAX	\$59,532	\$59,532	\$27,125	\$27,125
LAND & BUILDINGS	\$679,865	\$679,865	\$309,765	\$309,765
PROPERTY TAX	\$69,043	\$69,043	\$31,458	\$31,458
TOTAL ANNUAL COST	\$3,336,975	\$3,336,975	\$1,520,417	\$1,520,417
LESS 17% AVOIDED	\$567,286	\$567,286	\$258,471	\$258,471
ADJUSTED ANNUAL COST	\$2,769,689	\$2,769,689	\$1,261,946	\$1,261,946
COST/MO (ANN. COST/12)	\$230,807	\$230,807	\$105,162	\$105,162
TELRIC/MIN	\$0.004	\$0.002	\$0.004	\$0.002
USAGE REV/MO	\$43,575	\$21,788	\$47,244	\$23,622
COMMON COST/MO	\$187,232	\$209,020	\$57,918	\$81,540
COMMON COST/LINE/MO	\$10.72	\$11.97	\$8.75	\$12.32
% UNRECOVERED USING PROXY	81.1%	90.6%	55.1%	77.5%



LOOPS

STATE	FCC LOOP PROXY CEILING PRICE (a)	GTE's TELRIC UNBUNDLED LOOP (b)	RATIO: PROXY PRICE TO TELRIC (c = b / a)	BCM II COST * (e)	RATIO: PROXY PRICE TO BCM II (f = e / a)
California	\$11.10	\$23.09	2.08	\$21.56	1.94
Florida	\$13.68	\$21.94	1.60	\$25.44	1.86
Hawaii	\$15.27	\$18.66	1.22	\$25.72	1.68
Illinois	\$13.12	\$22.82	1.74	\$34.43	2.62
Michigan	\$15.27	\$19.54	1.28	\$37.00	2.42
Ohio	\$15.73	\$20.28	1.29	\$36.00	2.29
Pennsylvania	\$12.30	\$19.04	1.55	\$29.07	2.36
Texas	\$15.49	\$22.46	1.45	\$28.98	1.87
Washington	\$13.37	\$22.20	1.66	\$28.23	2.11
Wisconsin	\$15.94	\$19.15	1.20	\$39.05	2.45

- * GTE analysis indicates that the BCM II default assumptions cause its resulting loop cost to be understated by as much as \$5 to \$10 per loop, depending on the state. For example, the default assumptions for conduit and drop wire installation costs are much lower than a contract GTE had with Lucent Technologies for those activities. Note also that BCM II includes an allocation of common costs.

END OFFICE SWITCHING

STATE	TELRIC	TELRIC	TELRIC	COMPOSITE	RATIO:
	PER MINUTE (a)	PER PORT (b)	FEATURE PACKAGE (c)	TELRIC PER MINUTE (d = a + ((b + c / MOU))	TELRIC TO FCC \$0.004 UPPER BOUND (e=d/\$0.004)
California	0.0034840	\$4.63	\$2.61	\$0.0107	2.68
Florida	0.0033592	\$4.51	\$6.90	\$0.0179	4.47
Hawaii	0.0073493	\$5.22	\$6.69	\$0.0244	6.09
Illinois	0.0041515	\$3.78	\$2.02	\$0.0106	2.65
Michigan	0.0031419	\$3.63	\$4.06	\$0.0119	2.99
Ohio *	0.0030980	\$4.46	\$15.29	\$0.0262	6.54
Pennsylvania	0.0027488	\$4.79	\$2.39	\$0.0120	2.99
Texas	0.0035126	\$4.39	\$4.90	\$0.0147	3.68
Washington	0.0034332	\$3.15	\$2.08	\$0.0096	2.40
Wisconsin *	0.0028151	\$4.58	\$10.04	\$0.0208	5.21

* Nonstandard feature packages

**COMPARISON OF PROXY PRICES
WITH
GTE FLORIDA TELRIC AND REVENUES**

	FCC		Current GTE Avg Rev per Line per Month	
	TELRIC	Proxy Prices		
Local Loop	\$21.84	\$13.88	Local Service Price	\$20.53 #
Network Interface Device	\$1.32	\$1.32	Switched Access	\$3.65 @
Switching	\$14.05	\$3.15	100% TIC	\$0.54 @
75% TIC	n/a	\$0.40	Local Switching	\$1.99 **
			Vertical Services	\$2.21 *
			IntraLATA Toll	\$2.34 &
Per Line	\$37.31	\$18.55	Total Revenues	\$31.25

Notes: Switched access transport excluded from costs & revenues above.
Carrier Common Line revenues excluded from all calculations
Subscriber Line Charge revenues included in average rate per switched access line.
TIC = Transport Interconnection Charge