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October 11, 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. 950984-TP Resolution of petition(s) to establish nondiscriminatory rates, terms and conditions for resale involving local exchange companies and alternative local exchange companies pursuant to Section 364.161, Florida Statutes

Dear Ms. Bayo:

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Please find enclosed for filing an original and fifteen copies of GTE Florida Incorporated's Motion for Stay of Order Pending Judicial Review in the above matter. Service has been made as indicated on the Certificate of Service. If there are any questions with regard to this matter, please contact me at 813-228-3087.

APP ery truly yours CAF CMU CTR Anthony P. Gillman EAG APG:tas X Enclosures LIN & FILED 12 12 EPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS WAS \_ A part of GTE Corporation **DTH** 

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Resolution of petition(s) to establish nondiscriminatory rates, terms and conditions for resale involving local exchange companies and alternative local exchange companies pursuant to Section 364.161, Florida Statutes

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Docket No. 950984-TP Filed: October 11, 1996 A Startes

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## GTE FLORIDA INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR STAY OF ORDER <u>PENDING JUDICIAL REVIEW</u>

GTE Florida Incorporated (GTEFL), pursuant to F.P.S.C. Rule No. 25-22.061(1)(a), seeks a stay of the Florida Public Service Commission's Order No. PSC-96-0811-FOF-TP (Initial Order) and Order No. PSC-96-1160-FOF-TP (Order on Reconsideration) pending judicial review. In support of this motion, GTEFL states as follows:

### I. Background

1. Under the 1995 revisions to Chapter 364 of the Florida Statutes, incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) were required to unbundle their network features, functions and capabilities and offer them for resale to the extent it is technically and economically feasible to do so. Fla. Stat. §364.161(1). Alternative local exchange carriers (ALECS) were required to negotiate with LECs to establish rates, terms and conditions for such unbundled elements. After entering negotiations with GTEFL, Metropolitan Fiber Systems of Florida, Inc. (MFS) reached a partial agreement on certain issues. However, the parties reached an impasse on the compensation arrangements for the unbundled elements.

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Unable to reach an agreement, MFS filed a petition with the Commission to arbitrate their dispute. Fla. Stat. §364.161(1).

2. As part of its unbundling proposal, GTEFL agreed to provide unbundled loops and ports. Although GTEFL proposed new rates for the ports, the rates for loops were already tariffed. As such, GTEFL proposed to charge its currently tariffed rates for those loops. As noted by GTEFL witness Dennis Trimble, "[u]nbundled loop prices are already available today in GTEFL's Facilities for Intrastate Access tariff." (Trimble Direct, p. 4). The tariffed loop prices are noted below:

	Unbundled Loop	Existing Tariffed Rate
a.	2-wire analog voice grade loop;	\$23.00
b.	4-wire analog voice grade loop;	\$33.00
C.	2-wire ISDN digital grade loop;	\$23.00
d.	4-wire ISDN digital grade loop;	\$250 1st System \$154.00 Add'l System

3. Although GTEFL proposed to charge its existing tariffed rates, the Company acknowledged that these rates alone were not sufficient to recover the contribution to joint and common costs provided by services carried over the local loop. Presently, the local loop provided to GTEFL's customers serves as the platform for many other services such as toll and discretionary services. The rates for these services have been set by the Commission at artificially high levels in order to subsidize the below-cost residential service provided by GTEFL throughout its operating territory. GTEFL argued that this

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existing subsidy flow should be addressed and replaced with a new mechanism. Otherwise, the Commission would be confiscating GTEFL's property.

4. On June 24, 1996, the Commission issued its Initial Order, adopting rates which were (except for 4-wire ISDN digital grade loop) lower than the existing tariffed rates noted above. The Commission lowered the rates to the TSLRIC levels, thereby removing all existing contribution to joint and common costs. In addition to lowering those rates, the Commission also rejected GTEFL's request to replace the existing subsidy mechanism with some other mechanism. By refusing to implement another mechanism, the Commission effectively eliminated the existing subsidy entirely.

5. GTEFL appealed the Commission's Initial Order to the Florida Supreme Court. The notice of appeal was filed on July 22, 1996.

6. MFS also sought reconsideration of the Commission's Initial Order. Because of this motion, the Commission took the position that its Initial Order was not final. The Commission filed a motion to abate GTE's appeal of the Initial Order until a final order was rendered on MFS' motion for reconsideration. GTE agreed to the abatement.

7. In its Order on Reconsideration, the Commission denied MFS' motion that the Initial Order be reconsidered. The Commission also granted a stay of the effective date of GTE's tariffs until thirty days after the Order on Reconsideration is issued. Under this Order, GTE's tariffs will become effective on October 17, 1996.

8. On October 11, 1996, GTE filed its notice of appeal of both the Initial Order and Order on Reconsideration. GTEFL's notice to appeal is attached hereto.

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9. GTE had previously moved the Commission for a stay of the Initial Order. However, this motion was never addressed because the Initial Order did not become final until the Order on Reconsideration was issued. As such, GTE is refiling the motion to stay both the Initial Order and Order on Reconsideration.

### II. Initial Order and Order on Reconsideration Involve a Decrease in Rates

10. GTEFL seeks a stay pursuant to Rule No. 25-22.061(1)(a) which requires that a stay be granted pending judicial review when the Order involves a "decrease in rates" charged to GTEFL's customers. In these instances, it is not necessary for GTEFL to show that it is likely to prevail on the merits, that it has suffered irreparable harm or that the stay is not contrary to the public interest.

11. There is no question in this case that the Initial Order and Order on Reconsideration decrease the rates presently charged by GTEFL to its carriers and end user customers.

12. The two orders effectively mandate a decrease in GTEFL's local loop rates charged to MFS and other carriers. As noted above, the unbundled loops in question, or their functional equivalents, are already tariffed. However, the rates approved by the Commission are lower than those tariffed rates, as shown below:

	Unbundled Loop	Existing Rate	Commission Rate
a,	2-wire analog voice grade loop;	\$23.00	\$20.00
b.	4-wire analog voice grade loop;	\$33.00	\$25.00
C.	2-wire ISDN digital grade loop;	\$23.00	\$20.00

d. 4-wire ISDN digital grade loop;

\$250 1st System same \$154.00 Add'l System

13. As reflected above, GTEFL's current loop rates are being decreased. The same 2-wire loop that MFS could have purchased before at \$23.00 is now priced at \$20.00. Likewise, the same 4-wire loop which presently is priced at \$33.00 is now priced at \$25.00.

14. The Commission has also effectively decreased the rates GTEFL charges to its end users and interexchange carriers by eliminating the subsidy payment made through the provision of toll, access and other discretionary services. These services presently subsidize residential rates and are part and parcel of the local loop provided to the customer. By adopting a rate which provides no contribution to this subsidy and by refusing to replace this subsidy with a different mechanism, the Commission has decreased the rates charged by GTEFL. In fact, the Commission has reduced the existing subsidy to zero.

### III. No Bond Should Be Required

15. Rule 25-22.061(1)(a) permits the Commission to require GTEFL to post a bond or issue some other corporate undertaking as a condition of the stay. GTEFL recommends that the bond should be set at zero. No bond is necessary because granting the stay will not prejudice MFS, the only party who petitioned the Commission to resolve a dispute between it and GTEFL.

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16. MFS will not be prejudiced by this stay because MFS also dislikes the Initial Order. MFS filed a motion of reconsideration of that order, arguing that the rates approved by the Commission are too high. MFS contends that the Commission "ignored or misapplied the applicable law or failed to considered [sic] significant evidence presented in the hearing." *Motion for Reconsideration by Metropolitan Fiber Systems of Florida, Inc.* at 3. MFS cannot complain about a stay of orders which it thinks were erroneously decided.

17. It is obvious from its motion for reconsideration that MFS feels strongly that the Commission erred in issuing the Initial Order on unbundling and denying its motion for reconsideration. If MFS agrees with GTEFL that the two orders are based upon error, then they cannot be prejudiced by the fact that GTEFL is seeking a stay of those erroneous orders. Indeed, MFS may welcome such a stay.

GTEFL respectfully requests the Commission to stay Order No. PSC-96-0811-FOF-TP, Order No. PSC-96-1160-FOF-TP and the effective date of GTEFL's tariffs filed pursuant to those Orders until GTEFL's appeal of them is concluded.

Respectfully submitted on October 11, 1996.

By:

BUE

Anthony P. Gillman Kimberly Caswell Post Office Box 110, FLTC0007 Tampa, Florida 33601 Telephone: 813-228-3087

Attorneys for GTE Florida Incorporated

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of GTE Florida Incorporated's Motion for Stay of Order Pending Judicial Review in Docket No. 950984-TP were sent via U.S. mail on October 11, 1996 to the parties on the attached list.

Anthony P. Gillman

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