

Talbott  
Vandiver

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
Capital Circle Office Center • 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

MEMORANDUM

October 23, 1997

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (HAYD)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS (BIEGALSKI) *ICB*  
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION (LAKE) *RA*  
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (K. PEÑA) *meb*

RE: DOCKET NO. 971284-TC - CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF PAY TELEPHONE CERTIFICATE NO. 3740 ISSUED TO BUSINESS NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES.

AGENDA: 11/04/97 REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: S:PSC/CMU/WP/971284TC.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

- Business Network Communications, Inc. (Business) obtained Florida Public Service Commission Pay Telephone certificate number 3740 on May 3, 1994.
- On June 3, 1997, the Division of Administration mailed a certified letter to the address listed in the Master Commission Directory informing Business that it was delinquent on its regulatory assessment fees for the year 1996. The letter was returned by the United States Postal Service stamped "Refused" (Attachment A, Page 5).
- As of October 13, 1997, the delinquent regulatory assessment fees for 1996, along with statutory penalties and interest charges, have not been submitted by Business.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

10896 OCT 23

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

RECEIVED

OCT 23 1997

9:45

Records/Reporting

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DATE: October 23, 1997

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission impose a \$500 fine or cancel Business' Pay Telephone Certificate No. 3740 for apparent violation of Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should impose a \$500 fine or cancel the company's certificate if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalties and interest, are not received by the Commission within 5 business days after the conclusion of the 21 day protest period. The fine should be paid to the Florida Public Service Commission and forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. If the Commission's Order is not protested and the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalties and interest, are not received, certificate number 3740 should be canceled. (Biegalski)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, requires the payment of regulatory assessment fees by January 30 of the subsequent year for telecommunications companies, and provides for penalties and interest as outlined in Section 350.113, Florida Statutes, for any delinquent amounts.

On October 13, 1997, staff learned that Business had not submitted the regulatory assessment fees for the year 1996, along with statutory penalties and interest charges. Therefore, the company has failed to comply with Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code.

Accordingly, staff recommends that the Commission assess a \$500 fine for failure to comply with Commission rules or cancel certificate number 3740 if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, along with statutory penalties and interest, are not paid within the specified time.

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ISSUE 2: Should the Commission order all certificated local exchange companies (LECs) to discontinue providing service to Business if certificate number 3740 is canceled?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should order all certificated local exchange companies to discontinue providing service to Business if Business' certificate is canceled at the conclusion of the protest period for failure to submit the delinquent regulatory assessment fees, and pay the fines as required in Issue 1. The Order should state that any LEC providing service to Business must contact the Commission at the conclusion of the protest period as set forth in the Order to determine whether the certificate has been canceled. (Biegalski)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If Business' certificate is canceled, any service offered by Business would be in violation of Rule 25-24.510, Florida Administrative Code. Since the Commission cannot readily identify which LEC provides service to Business, the Commission should order all certificated LECs to discontinue service to Business if Business fails to comply with the terms of the Commission's order resulting from these recommendations. The Order should state that any LEC providing service to Business must contact the Commission at the conclusion of the protest period as set forth in the Order to determine whether the certificate has been canceled.

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ISSUE 3: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: If no person whose substantial interests are affected files a protest within 21 days of the issuance date of the Order, the Order will become final. Upon payment of the fines and fees, or cancellation of the certificate, this docket should be closed. (Peña)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If the Commission adopts staff's recommendation in Issue 1, then Business will have 21 days from the issuance date of the Order to file a timely protest to the Commission's Proposed Agency Action. If no protest is filed, the docket should be closed upon payment of the fines and fees, or upon cancellation of the certificate.

ATTACHMENT A  
DOCKET NO. 971284-TC  
OCTOBER 23, 1997

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the right of the return address

State of Florida  
**Public Service Commission**

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

**CERTIFIED**

P 174 241 070

**MAIL**



REASON CHECKED  
Unclaimed  
Refused  
Attempted Not Known  
Insufficient Address  
No Such Street  
No Such Number  
No Such Office In State  
No Post Office In this envelope

*Refused*

TF088  
Business Network Communications, Inc.  
East Barclay Center, Bldg 200, Ste 201  
Route 70  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

