



Public Service Commission

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RECORDS AND REPORTING
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RECEIVED-FPSC
D/C

DATE: MARCH 16, 2000
TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYO)
FROM: DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS (ISLER) *DIC*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (K. PEÑA; B. KEATING) *WMP*
RE: CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF ALTERNATIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CERTIFICATE FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, F.A.C., REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES; TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

- DOCKET NO. 991963-TX - EASTLAND OF ORLANDO TELEPHONE CORPORATION
- DOCKET NO. 991964-TX - WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.
- DOCKET NO. 991965-TX - PHILACOM INC.
- DOCKET NO. 991969-TX - TIN CAN COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.
- DOCKET NO. 991970-TX - UNITED STATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. D/B/A TEL COM PLUS
- DOCKET NO. 991971-TX - NEW MILLENNIUM COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

AGENDA: 03/28/00 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMU\WP\991963.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

Each of the certificated alternative local exchange telecommunications' providers listed on page 5 were mailed the 1998 regulatory assessment fee (RAF) notice. When full payment had not been received by the due date, the Division of Administration mailed a delinquent letter to the companies. As of March 8, 2000, none of the companies have paid the past due amount.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

DOCKET NOS. 991963-TX, 991964-TX, 991965-TX, 991969-TX, 991970-TX, 991971-TX
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Staff believes the following recommendations are appropriate.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission impose a \$500 fine or cancel the alternative local exchange telecommunications' certificates issued to each company listed on page 5 for apparent violation of Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should impose a \$500 fine or cancel each company's certificate as listed on page 5 if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received by the Commission within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. 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 regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received, the alternative local exchange telecommunications certificate numbers listed on page 5 should be canceled administratively. (Isler)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Pursuant to Section 364.285, Florida Statutes, the Commission may impose a fine or cancel a certificate if a company refuses to comply with Commission rules. Rule 25-24.820, Florida Administrative Code, establishes the requirements for cancellation of an alternative local exchange telecommunications' company certificate. The rule provides for the Commission to cancel a certificate on its own motion for violation of Commission Rules and Orders.

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.

The Division of Administration's records show that each of the alternative local exchange telecommunications' providers listed on page 5 had not paid their 1998 regulatory assessment fees in full, plus statutory penalty and interest charges. In addition, the 1999 RAF, which was due January 31, 2000, has not been paid.

DOCKET NOS. 991963-TX, 991964-TX, 991965-TX, 991969-TX, 991970-TX, 991971-TX

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Therefore, it appears the companies have failed to comply with Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies and have not requested cancellation of their certificates in compliance with Rule 25-24.820, Florida Administrative Code.

Accordingly, staff recommends that the Commission assess a \$500 fine for failure to comply with the Commission rules or cancel the companies' respective certificate numbers if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, along with statutory penalty and interest charges, are not paid within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. 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 regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received, the alternative local exchange telecommunications' certificate numbers listed on page 5 should be canceled administratively.

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ISSUE 2: Should these dockets be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, if the Commission approves or modifies staff's recommendation on Issue 1, these dockets should be closed upon receipt of the fine and fees or cancellation of the certificates, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's decision files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the proposed agency action order. If the Commission denies staff's recommendation on Issue 1, these dockets should be closed administratively. A protest in one docket should not prevent the action in a separate docket from becoming final. (K. Peña; B. Keating)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Whether staff's recommendation on Issue 1 is approved or modified, the result will be a proposed agency action order and these dockets should be closed upon receipt of the fine and fees or cancellation of the certificates unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's decision files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the proposed agency action. If the Commission denies staff's recommendation on Issue 1, these dockets should be closed administratively. A protest in one docket should not prevent the action in a separate docket from becoming final.

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<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>PROVIDER</u> <u>LAST REPORTED REVENUES & PERIOD COVERED</u>	<u>CERT.</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>RAFs</u>	<u>P and I</u>
991963-TX	Eastland of Orlando Telephone \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/97	5191	1998	1998
991964-TX	World Telecommunications Services \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/97	5204	1998	1998
991965-TX	Philacom Inc. \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/97	5282	1998	1997 1998
991969-TX	Tin Can Communications No Previous RAF Form Returned	5560	1998	1998
991970-TX	Tel Com Plus No Previous RAF Form Returned	5586	1998	1998
991971-TX	New Millennium Communications No Previous RAF Form Returned	5587	1998	1998