

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

RECORDS AND
REPORTING

MAY 24 AM 11:39

RECEIVED-FPSC

DATE: MAY 25, 2000

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

FROM: DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS (ISLER) *Pij* *RM*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (K. PEÑA; B. KEATING) *WMP* *SK*

RE: DOCKET NO. 991868-TI - CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CERTIFICATE NO. 5759 ISSUED TO LONG DISTANCE AMERICA, INC. FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, F.A.C., REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES; TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

AGENDA: 06/06/00 - REGULAR AGENDA - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMU\WP\991868.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

- **12/05/98** - This company obtained Florida Public Service Commission IXC Certificate No. 5759.
- **12/10/98** - The Division of Administration mailed the regulatory assessment fee (RAF) notice. In accordance with Florida Statute 350.113(4), the Commission "shall provide each regulated company with written notice of the date that payment of the fee is due at least 45 days prior to such date", which would put the due date to February 1, 1999.
- **03/17/99** - The Division of Administration mailed a delinquent letter.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

DOCKET NO. 991868-TI

DATE: MAY 25, 2000

- **12/08/99** - The Division of Administration mailed the 1999 RAF notice.
- **02/29/00** - The Division of Administration mailed a delinquent notice for the 1999 RAF.
- **03/10/00** - Order No. PSC-00-0522-PAA-TI was issued, which imposed a \$500 fine or canceled the company's certificate.
- **03/23/00** - The Commission received a check for the 1999 RAF and a letter asking staff to contact the company since it did not want its certificate canceled. The company reported 1999 revenues in the amount of \$4,548.40 for the period ended December 31, 1999.
- **04/06/00** - Staff wrote the company and enclosed a copy of the 1998 RAF return which needed to be completed and explained how to resolve the docket.
- **04/27/00** - The Commission received a check for the 1998 RAF, including penalty and interest charges. In addition, the company proposed a settlement.

Staff believes the following recommendations are appropriate.

DOCKET NO. 991868-TI
DATE: MAY 25, 2000

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission accept the settlement offer proposed by Long Distance America, Inc. to resolve the apparent violation of Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should accept the company's settlement proposal. Any contribution should be received by the Commission within ten business days from the date of the Commission Order and should identify the docket number and company name. The Commission should forward the contribution to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. If the company fails to pay in accordance with the terms of the Commission Order, the company's Certificate No. 5759 should be canceled administratively. (Isler)

STAFF ANALYSIS: After Order No. PSC-00-0522-PAA-TI was issued on March 10, 2000, the company paid the 1999 RAF. However, the company did not pay the 1998 RAF or statutory penalty and interest charges. The company has since paid the 1998 RAF, including penalty and interest charges; offered a settlement in the amount of \$100; and proposed to pay future RAFs on a timely basis.

Accordingly, staff believes the terms of the settlement agreement as summarized in this recommendation should be accepted. Any contribution should be received by the Commission within ten business days from the date of the Commission Order and should identify the docket number and company name. The Commission should forward the contribution to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. If the company fails to pay in accordance with the terms of the Commission Order, the company's Certificate No. 5759 should be canceled administratively.

DOCKET NO. 991868-11
DATE: MAY 25, 2000

ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, if the Commission approves staff's recommendation in Issue 1, this docket should be closed upon receipt of the \$100 contribution or cancellation of the certificate. (K. Peña; B. Keating)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If the Commission approves staff's recommendation in Issue 1, this docket should be closed upon receipt of the \$100 contribution or cancellation of the certificate.