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ORIGINAL

July 26, 2001

Mr. Jeffrey Masoner
 Vice President – Interconnection Policy & Planning
 Verizon Network Services
 11th Floor
 2107 Wilson Blvd.
 Arlington, VA 22201

RE: *Bona Fide Request for Interconnection Negotiations Pursuant to Section 251 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with Verizon South in the State of Florida.*

Dear Mr. Masoner:

The purpose of this letter is to formalize a US LEC of Florida Inc. (US LEC) Bona Fide Request for an interconnection agreement with Verizon South in the state of Florida. US LEC looks forward to concluding an agreement with Verizon South addressing the areas of interconnection, access to unbundled elements, resale of telecommunications services, and transport and termination of traffic as identified in Sections 251(a) through (c) of the Act. In order to facilitate the discussions between US LEC and Verizon South, I request that the topics of negotiation include:

1. Interconnection Arrangements

US LEC and Verizon South should reach efficient and mutually agreeable interconnection arrangements that include non-discriminatory, real-time access to databases, at cost-based rates pursuant to Section 252(d)(1) of the Act, and associated signaling necessary for call routing and completion.

Verizon South should also make available to US LEC collocation for equipment necessary for interconnection or access to unbundled network elements as contemplated by Section 251(c)(6) of the Act.

2. Meet-Point Billing Arrangements

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US LEC would like to establish meet-point billing arrangements with Verizon South so that it may offer a common transport option to parties purchasing originating and terminating switched access services from US LEC.

3. Reciprocal Compensation

Compensation for traffic exchanged between the networks of US LEC and Verizon South should allow for the mutual and reciprocal recovery of costs associated with transport and termination as contemplated by Sections 251(b)(5) and 252(d)(2) of the Act.

4. Access to Ancillary Platforms

US LEC seeks access to all ancillary platform arrangements such as 911/E911, Directory Assistance, Directory Listings and Directory Distribution, Transfer of Service Announcement, Coordinated Repair Calls, and Busy Line Verification and Interrupt.

5. Unbundled Elements

US LEC requests nondiscriminatory access to Verizon South's network elements on an unbundled basis as contemplated by Section 251(c)(3).

6. Number Portability

Until permanent number portability arrangements are available under Section 251(b)(2), US LEC and Verizon South should provide interim number portability ("INP") options to each other on a competitively neutral basis, in accordance with the FCC's July, 1996 Number Portability Order.

7. Access to Rights-of-Way

US LEC would like access Verizon South's poles, ducts, conduits, and rights-of-way as needed by US LEC to provide local exchange services.

8. Resale of Local Services



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Verizon South should make available to US LEC for resale, at wholesale rates as defined in Section 252(d)(3), any telecommunications services currently provided at retail to subscribers who are not telecommunications carriers.

The suggested topics of negotiations listed above are intended only to assist in establishing an initial framework for interconnection negotiations. US LEC reserves the right to suggest additional or modified arrangements as negotiations proceed.

Basically, US LEC would like to provide local exchange services to customers currently located within Verizon South's traditional serving area. Furthermore, we would like to do this in concert with Verizon South through a fully functional interconnection of our respective networks at a mutually agreeable point (or points) inside Verizon South's service boundary in accordance with the terms of the Act.

This is a "Bona-Fide Request" for interconnection pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 251(f)(1)(A). We are therefore providing a copy of the request to the Florida Public Service Commission pursuant to Section 251(f)(1)(A).

All notices or other communication following approval of the agreement should be sent to:

Wanda G. Montano
Vice President – Regulatory and Industry Affairs
US LEC Corp.
Morrocroft III
6801 Morrison Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28211

General Counsel
US LEC Corp.
Morrocroft III
6801 Morrison Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28211



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During the negotiation process I will be the primary contact and may be reached at the following:

(Telephone) 704.319.1476
(Facsimile) 704.602.1476
(E-mail) egriffin@uslec.com

Upon the receipt of your response we can begin negotiations necessary to complete an interconnection agreement in accordance with the terms of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward H. Griffin".

Edward H. Griffin
Manager ICO and Wireless Interconnect

C: Wanda G. Montano
Sumner N. Smith, Esq.
Ms. Blanca Bayo, Commission Secretary
Kenneth A. Hoffman, Esq.