

ORIGINAL

CK 74949
\$500.00
MC

P. Isler
CCA

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida Public Service Commission of Interexchange Telecommunications Certificate No. 7502 issued to Eastern Telephone Systems, Inc. d/b/a Eastern Tel Long Distance Service, Inc. for violation of Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies.

DOCKET NO. 011069-TI
ORDER NO. PSC-01-2260-AS-TI
ISSUED: November 19, 2001

TJ384

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman

J. TERRY DEASON

LILA A. JABER

BRAULIO L. BAEZ

MICHAEL A. PALECKI

DEPOSIT

DATE

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ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

Eastern Telephone Systems, Inc. d/b/a Eastern Tel Long Distance Service, Inc. (Eastern Tel) currently holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 7502, issued by the Commission on July 31, 2000, authorizing the provision of Interexchange Telecommunications service. The Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services advised our staff that Eastern Tel had not paid the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) required by Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, for the year 2000. Also, accrued statutory penalties and interest charges for late RAFs payments for the year 2000 had not been paid. Eastern Tel was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 30, 2001.

Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAFs of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-4.0161(2), Florida Administrative Code, the form and applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by

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January 30 of the subsequent year. Pursuant to Section 350.113(4), Florida Statutes, the RAFs forms, for the period of January 1, through December 31, are mailed to entities at least 45 days prior to the date that payment of the fee is due. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing Interexchange Telecommunications service.

After this docket was established, on August 22, 2001, Mr. George Kingsbury, President of Eastern Tel, contacted our staff and requested the 2000 RAFs return notice and the company's options to resolve this docket. Eastern Tel has since paid the 2000 RAFs, including accrued statutory penalties and interest charges, offered to contribute \$500 to the State General Revenue Fund, and proposed to pay future RAFs on a timely basis.

We believe that the terms of the settlement agreement represent a fair and reasonable resolution of this matter. Accordingly, we hereby accept the settlement offer. Eastern Tel must comply with these requirements within ten business days from the date this Order becomes final. The contribution should be identified with the docket number and the company name. Upon timely receipt, the contribution will be forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. Eastern Tel has waived any objection to the administrative cancellation of its certificate if it does not comply with its settlement agreement. Upon remittance of the \$500 contribution or cancellation of the certificate, this docket shall be closed. We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.285, 364.336, and 364.337, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Eastern Telephone Systems, Inc. d/b/a Eastern Tel Long Distance Service, Inc.'s settlement proposal set forth in the body of this Order is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending timely receipt of the \$500 contribution. The contribution will be transmitted to the Comptroller for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund. It is further

ORDERED that if Eastern Telephone Systems, Inc. d/b/a Eastern Tel Long Distance Service, Inc. fails to comply with this Order, its certificate will be canceled administratively. It is further

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ORDERED that upon receipt of the \$500 contribution or cancellation of the certificate this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 19th Day of November, 2001.

/s/ Blanca S. Bayó
BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

This is a facsimile copy. Go to the Commission's Web site, <http://www.floridapsc.com> or fax a request to 1-850-413-7118, for a copy of the order with signature.

(S E A L)

AJT

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

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Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.