

HOPPING GREEN & SAMS
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

123 SOUTH CALHOUN STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 6526
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32314

(850) 222-7500

FAX (850) 224-8551

www.hgss.com

Writer's Direct Dial No
(850) 425-2313

March 15, 2002

JAMES S. ALVES
BRIAN H. BIBEAU
RICHARD S. BRIGHTMAN
DIANE W. CARR
KEVIN B. COVINGTON
T. SPENCER CROWLEY, III
BRIAN A. CRUMBAKER
PETER C. CUNNINGHAM
RALPH A. DEMEO
WILLIAM H. GREEN
MATTHEW L. HICKS
WADE L. HOPPING
GARY K. HUNTER, JR.
JONATHAN T. JOHNSON
ROBERT A. MANNING
FRANK E. MATTHEWS
RICHARD D. MELSON
KYLE V. MITCHELL

ANGELA R. MORRISON
ERIC T. OLSEN
GARY V. PERKO
MICHAEL P. PETROVICH
DAVID L. POWELL
CAROLYN S. RAEPPLE
DOUGLAS S. ROBERTS
D. KENT SAFRIET
GARY P. SAMS
TIMOTHY G. SCHOENWALDER
DAN R. STENGLE
CHERYL G. STUART
JENNIFER A. TSCHETTER
VICTORIA L. WEBER

OF COUNSEL
ELIZABETH C. BOWMAN
REX D. WARE

BY E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Kimberly Caswell
Vice President and General Counsel
Verizon Florida, Inc.
201 North Franklin Street
P.O. Box 110
Tampa, FL 33601-0110

Re: Proposal for Mediation
Docket No. 990649B-TP

Dear Kim:

I am writing on behalf of MCI WorldCom (WorldCom) to request that Verizon engage in mediation with WorldCom and other intervenors in this docket in an attempt to resolve the UNE pricing issues that are currently scheduled for hearing before the Commission on April 29 to May 1, 2002.

WorldCom proposes that the mediation be conducted in Tallahassee on two mutually agreeable days during the week of April 1, 2002 and that the parties utilize the services of a trained mediator from the Commission's Office of General Counsel, possibly David Smith. We have not yet contacted Mr. Smith to determine his interest or availability to serve as mediator.

WorldCom has contacted the other parties who are actively participating in this docket. The parties who have responded either actively support (AT&T, FDN, KMC, ITC^DeltaCom) or do not oppose (Z-Tel) an attempt to mediate this dispute. FDN does note that due to resource issues the scope of its participation may be limited. Sprint has not yet advised WorldCom of its position regarding mediation.

DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE

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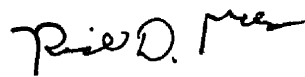
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Kimberly Caswell
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WorldCom's hope is that the mediation will allow the parties to eliminate the need for a hearing, or at least to narrow the issues that require a Commission ruling.

Please let me know as soon as possible if Verizon will agree to mediation and what dates during the week of April 1st are best for your mediation team.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Melson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "R" and "M".

Richard D. Melson

RDM/mee

cc: Certificate of Service
Blanca Bayo (for docket file)
Chairman Jaber
Commissioner Baez
Commissioner Deason
Commissioner Palecki
Commissioner Bradley

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to the following parties by U.S. Mail, hand delivery (*) this 15th day of March, 2002.

AT&T Communications of the Southern
States, Inc. (GA)
Virginia Tate
1200 Peachtree St., Suite 8068
Atlanta, GA 30309

Ausley Law Firm
Jeffrey Wahlen/John Fons
P.O. Box 391
Tallahassee, FL 32302

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc
Ms. Nancy B. White
c/o Nancy H. Sims
150 South Monroe Street, Suite 400
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1556

Covad Communications Company
Ms. Catherine F. Boone
10 Glenlake Parkway, Suite 650
Atlanta, GA 30328-3495

Development Specialists, Inc.
Norton Cutler
c/o Steve Victor
70 West Madison Street, Suite 2300
Chicago, IL 60602-4250

Florida Cable Telecommunications Assoc.,
Inc.
Michael A. Gross
246 E. 6th Avenue, Suite 100
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Florida Competitive Carriers Assoc.
c/o McWhirter Law Firm
Joseph McGlothlin/Vicki Kaufman
117 S. Gadsden St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Florida Digital Network, Inc.
390 North Orange Ave., Suite 2000
Orlando, FL 32801

KMC Telecom Inc.
Mr. John D. McLaughlin, Jr.
1755 North Brown Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30034-8119

Katz, Kutter Law Firm
Charles Pellegrini/Patrick Wiggins
12th Floor
106 East College Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Kelley Law Firm
Genevieve Morelli/Eric Jenkins
1200 19th St. NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036

Kelley Law Firm
Jonathan Canis/Michael Hazzard
1200 19th St. NW, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20036

MCI WorldCom
Ms. Donna C. McNulty
325 John Knox Road, Suite 105
Tallahassee, FL 32303-4131

MCI WorldCom, Inc.
Mr. Brian Sulmonetti
Concourse Corporate Center Six
Six Concourse Parkway, Suite 3200
Atlanta, GA 30328

Messer Law Firm
Norman Horton/Floyd Self/Tracy Hatch
215 South Monroe Street, Suite 710
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Network Access Solutions Corporation
Mr. Don Sussman
Three Dulles Tech Center
13650 Dulles Technology Drive
Herndon, VA 20171-4602

Pennington Law Firm
Marc W. Dunbar
P.O. Box 10095
Tallahassee, FL 32302

SBC Telecom, Inc.
Mr. Kevin Chapman
13th Floor
300 Convent Street
San Antonio, TX 78205-3702

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP
Rodney L. Joyce
600 14th Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005-2004

Sprint-Florida, Incorporated
Charles J. Rehwinkel
1313 Blairstone Road
Tallahassee, FL 32301-3021

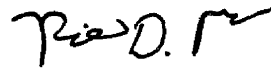
Supra Telecommunications and Information
Systems, Inc.
Mark E. Buechele
Koger Center - Ellis Bldg.
1311 Executive Center Dr., Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32301-5027

Swidler Berlin Friedman, LLP
Michael Sloan
3000 K St. NW, #300
Washington, DC 20007-5116

Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P.
Carolyn Marek
233 Bramerton Court
Franklin, TN 37069

Verizon Select Services Inc.
Kimberly Caswell
P.O. Box 110, FLTC0007
Tampa, FL 33601-0110

Z-Tel Communications, Inc.
George S. Ford
601 S. Harbour Island Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33602-5706



Attorney