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October 11, 2002

#### BY HAND DELIVERY

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Blanca Bayó Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re:

Docket 990649B-TP

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above referenced docket on behalf of the ALEC Coalition are the original and fifteen copies of its Motion to Strike Verizon Comments on Staff Recommendation plus exhibit.

Please acknowledge receipt and filing of the above by stamping the duplicate copy of this letter and returning it to me. If you have any questions concerning this filing, please contact me at 850/425-2359.

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

Gary V. Perko/

GVP/jlm Enclosures

cc: Certificate of Service

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FPSC-001 INVENIOR CLERK

### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Investigation into pricing of	)	Docket No. 990649B-TP
unbundled network elements	)	
(Sprint-Verizon track)	)	Filed: October 11, 2002
	)	

# ALEC COALITION'S MOTION TO STRIKE VERIZON COMMENTS ON STAFF RECOMMENDATION

AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC ("AT&T"), MCI WorldCom, Inc. ("WorldCom"), and Florida Digital Network ("FDN") (collectively the "ALEC Coalition") hereby move to strike Verizon's letter of October 9, 2002, commenting on the Commission Staff's recommendation in the above-referenced docket. In support, the ALEC Coalition states:

- 1. On October 9, 2002, Verizon submitted a letter to the Commission's Executive Director commenting on Staff's recommendation, which is scheduled for the Commission's consideration on October 14, 2002. (Copy of Verizon letter (without attachments) provided as Exhibit "A" hereto).
- 2. Verizon's letter purports to identify "errors" allegedly made by Staff when running Verizon's cost model and "urges the Staff to modify its recommendation to reflect [Verizon's proposed] corrections before the Commission's vote, in order to avoid potential clarifications after the vote." The letter also attaches extensive computer spreadsheets prepared by Verizon.
- 2. Verizon cannot cite to any Commission rule or order justifying its last-minute attempt to supplement the record or to otherwise influence the Staff's recommendation or the Commission's consideration of it.
- The Commission does not allow parties to file post hearing comments on staff recommendations and to begin now would severely prejudice the ALEC Coalition by allowing Verizon to unilaterally supplement the record on the very ever of the Commission's consideration

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of Staff's recommendation. Given the extent and the complexity of the information submitted by Verizon at this late date, opposing parties would be left with no reasonable opportunity to review, analyze, and respond to Verizon's allegations.

4. To the extent Verizon anticipates a Commission decision approving Staff's recommendation, the letter constitutes a premature motion for reconsideration. See Rule 25-22.060(3), Fla. Admin. Code (motions for reconsideration "shall be filed within 15 days after issuance of the order") (emphasis added).

WHEREFORE, the ALEC Coalition urges the Commission to strike Verizon's letter of October 9, 2002, commenting on the Commission Staff's Recommendation.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this day of October, 2002.

HOPPING GREEN & SAMS, P.A.

Gary V. Perko

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and

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Attorney for Florida Digital Network, Inc.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to the following parties by U.S. Mail, and/or e-mail (\*) this//th day of October, 2002.

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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

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### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

October 9, 2002

Dr. Mary Andrews Bane Executive Director Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re:

Docket 990649B-TP

Investigation into Pricing of Unbundled Network Elements (Sprint/Verizon

track)

Dear Dr. Bane:

On September 25, 2002, Commission Staff issued its recommendation for Verizon Florida Inc. (Verizon) in the above-referenced docket. In that recommendation, Staff accepts Verizon's cost model (ICM-FL), but changes several of Verizon's inputs. Verizon has reviewed Staff's workpapers in an effort to better understand its proposed changes and to duplicate its results. In doing so, Verizon detected certain errors in Staff's calculations. These include:

1. Compared to Verizon's proposals, Staff recommended longer depreciation lives in a number of accounts; a lower cost of capital; lower material loading costs; and a higher administrative fill factor. These changes will necessarily decrease the modeled investment relative to Verizon's ICM-FL run with Verizon's inputs. Staff's recalculation of the common cost allocator, however, reflects a modeled investment figure 60% higher (about \$4.9 billion) than the amount reflected in Verizon's filing (about \$2.7 billion). (Verizon could not find the source of the \$4.9 billion either in Staff's recommendation or its workpapers.) The common cost allocator is the ratio of common to direct costs. Using the incorrect (larger) modeled investment figure overstates the capital costs and property taxes associated with the modeled network in the denominator of this ratio, with the result being an understatement of the common cost allocator. The correct calculation is reflected on the attached document, "FIXEDALLOCATOR-STAFF-CORRECTED07.xls." This file is not confidential. Also included is a second, back-up file that may be useful to



Mary Andrews Bane October 9, 2002 Page 2

understanding the FIXEDALLOCATOR-STAFF-CORRECTED07.xls file. This second file (flxattch00SRDGT6wStaffRec.xls) does contain confidential information and has only been distributed to Staff and parties that have signed protective agreements.

- 2. A second problem with Staff's common cost allocator calculation is that the allocator was not adjusted for the shortfall in recovery that resulted when ICM-FL's calibration option was turned off. (Disabling the calibration option affects only expenses, not investment.) This shortfall equals \$77 million. It is calculated as the difference between the forward-looking expenses that are to be modeled via expense-to-investment ratios and the sum of the products of these ratios times the corresponding modeled investment. The only way to recover these costs, if the expense-to-investment ratios are left unchanged, is to modify the fixed allocator by adding the \$77 million to the numerator and subtracting it from the denominator. The corrected calculation also appears in the attached FIXEDALLOCATOR-STAFF-CORRECTED07.xls document. Again, the file flxattch00SRGDT6wStaffRec.xls provides additional back-up to the calculations.
- 3. To calculate rates for the UNE platform (UNE-P), Staff recommended adding up the monthly charges for each of the UNEs in the platform and then subtracting \$1.39 to account for the purported cost savings of using integrated digital loop carrier (IDLC) technology. As the recommendation (at 354) reflects, the \$1.39 is the cost reduction ICM-FL yields for the UNE-P when ICM-FL is modified to use IDLC to estimate costs. The \$1.39 figure, however, reflects Verizon's inputs, rather than the Staff's. If Staff's inputs are carried through to this calculation (as they should be for the recommendation to be internally consistent), the figure is \$1.17. (Staff can verify this differential by reviewing the files and instructions Verizon provided in response to Staff interrogatory 239 in this proceeding.)
- 4. Finally, there are some minor discrepancies between the lives and salvage values contained in Staff's recommendation and those in Staff's workpapers. Specifically, the ICM-FL input file provided by Staff showed a 9-year life for account 223200 (Circuit Equipment) even though Staff's recommendation is for an 8-year life. Similarly, the input table showed a 36-year life for account 241100 (Poles) even though Staff's recommendation is for a 35-year life. Note that these changes are not reflected in any of the results presented above or in the attached files.

Please note that Verizon does not agree with any of the Staff's recommended changes to Verizon's inputs or its model run. However, to the extent Staff maintains these recommendations, their effects should be consistently reflected in Staff's results. Verizon will promptly make available its subject matter experts to further discuss with Staff the corrections noted here. Verizon urges the Staff to modify its

Mary Andrews Bane October 9, 2002 Page 3

recommendation to reflect these corrections before the Commission's vote, in order to avoid potential clarifications after the vote.

Please contact me at 727-360-3241 if you have any questions or wish to further discuss the matters raised in this letter.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Caswell

KC:tas Attachments

c: Parties of Record - VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL