

LAW OFFICES

Messer, Caparello & Self

A Professional Association

Post Office Box 1876 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1876 Internet: www.lawfla.com

February 9, 2004



BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayó, Director Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Room 110, Easley Building Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 030851-TP

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of ITC DeltaCom Communications, Inc. are an original and fifteen copies of ITC's Preliminary Objections to Staff's Third Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 12-17) in the above referenced docket.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

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Sincerely yours,

Fløyd R. Self

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Implementation of Requirements)	
Arising From Federal Communications)	Docket No.: 030851-TP
Commission Triennial UNE Review:)	
Local Circuit Switching for Mass)	Filed: February 9, 2004
Market Customers)	
)	

ITC^DELTACOM's PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS TO STAFF'S THIRD SET OF INTERROGATORIES (Nos. 12-17)

ITC^DeltaCom (hereinafter "ITC"), pursuant to the *Order Establishing Procedure*, Order No. PSC-03-1054-PCO-TP, issued September 22, 2003 (hereinafter "*Procedural Order*") by the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission"), Rule 28-106.206 of the Florida Administrative Code, and Rules 1.280 and 1.340 of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, hereby generally and specifically objects to Public Service Commission Staff (hereinafter "Staff") Third Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 12-17), served on February 2, 2004. The Objections stated herein are preliminary in nature and are made at this time for the purpose of complying with the sevenday requirement set forth in the *Procedural Order*.

A. General Objections

ITC makes the following General Objections to Staff's Third Set of Interrogatories, including the applicable definitions and general instructions therein ("Staff discovery"), which as appropriate will be incorporated into each relevant response when ITC's responses are served on Staff.

1. ITC objects to the Staff discovery to the extent that such discovery seeks to impose an obligation on ITC to respond on behalf of subsidiaries, affiliates, or other persons that are not parties to this case on the grounds that such discovery is overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, and not permitted by applicable discovery rules. ITC further objects to

any and all Staff discovery that seeks to obtain information from ITC for ITC subsidiaries, affiliates, or other related ITC entities that are not certificated by the Commission.

- 2. ITC has interpreted the Staff discovery to apply to ITC's regulated intrastate operations in Florida and will limit its responses accordingly. To the extent that any Staff discovery is intended to apply to matters that take place outside the state of Florida and which are not related to Florida intrastate operations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, ITC objects to such request as irrelevant, overly broad, unduly burdensome, and oppressive.
- 3. ITC objects to the Staff discovery to the extent that such discovery calls for information which is exempt from discovery by virtue of the attorney-client privilege, work product privilege, or other applicable privilege.
- 4. ITC objects to the Staff discovery insofar as such discovery is vague, ambiguous, overly broad, imprecise, or utilizes terms that are subject to multiple interpretations but are not properly defined or explained for purposes of these requests. Any responses provided by ITC in response to the Staff discovery will be provided subject to, and without waiver of, the foregoing objection.
- 5. ITC objects to the Staff discovery insofar as such discovery is not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence and is not relevant to the subject matter of this action.
- 6. ITC objects to the Staff discovery insofar as it seeks information or documents, or seek to impose obligations on ITC which exceed the requirements of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure or Florida law.
- 7. ITC objects to providing information to the extent that such information is already in the public record before the Florida Public Service Commission or which is already in

the possession, custody, or control of Staff.

- 8. ITC objects to the Staff discovery to the extent that such discovery is overly broad, unduly burdensome, expensive, oppressive, or excessively time consuming as written.
- 9. ITC objects to each and every request to the extent that the information requested constitutes "trade secrets" which are privileged pursuant to Section 90.506, Florida Statutes. To the extent that Staff's requests seek proprietary confidential business information which is not the subject of the "trade secrets" privilege, ITC will make such information available to the Staff pursuant to the terms of the Commission's Protective Order and the Protective Agreement between the parties, subject to any other general or specific objections contained herein.
- 10. ITC is a large corporation with employees located in many different locations in Florida and in other states. In the course of its business, ITC creates countless documents that are not subject to Florida Public Service Commission or FCC retention of records requirements. These documents are kept in numerous locations and are frequently moved from site to site as employees change jobs or as the business is reorganized. Therefore, it is possible that not every document has been identified in response to these requests. ITC will conduct a reasonable and diligent search of those files that are reasonably expected to contain the requested information. To the extent that the Staff discovery purports to require more, ITC objects on the grounds that compliance would impose an undue burden or expense.
- 11. ITC objects to the Staff discovery that seeks to obtain "all," "each," or "every" document, item, customer, or other such piece of information to the extent that such discovery is overly broad and unduly burdensome. Any answers that ITC may provide in response to the Staff discovery will be provided subject to, and without waiver or, this objection.
 - 12. ITC objects to the Staff discovery to the extent such discovery seeks to have ITC

create documents not in existence at the time of the request.

- 13. ITC objects to the Staff discovery to the extent that such discovery is not limited to any stated period of time or a stated period of time that is longer than is relevant for purposes of the issues in this docket, as such discovery is overly broad and unduly burdensome.
- 14. In light of the short period of time ITC has been afforded to respond to the Staff discovery, the development of ITC's positions and potentially responsive information to the Staff requests is necessarily ongoing and continuing. Accordingly, these are preliminary objections to comply with the *Procedural Order*, and ITC reserves the right to supplement, revise, or modify its objections at the time that it serves its actual responses to the Staff discovery. However, ITC does not assume an affirmative obligation to supplement its answers on an ongoing basis.

B. Specific Objections

ITC makes the following Specific Objections to Staff's Third Set of Interrogatories, including the applicable definitions and general instructions expressed therein ("Staff discovery"), which as appropriate will be incorporated into each relevant response when ITC's responses are served on Staff.

15. ITC objects to each and every request for admission, interrogatory or request for production that seeks information regarding ITC's projections regarding future services, revenues, marketing strategies, equipment deployments, or other such future business plans as such requests are trade secrets and, for purposes of this proceeding, would be highly speculative and irrelevant to the issues to be decided in this docket.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of February, 2004.

Floyd Self, Esq.

Messer, Caparello & Self, P.A. _ 215 S. Monroe Street, Suite 701 Tallahassee, FL 32302

(850) 222-0720

Attorneys for ITC^DeltaCom

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served on the following parties by Hand Delivery (*), electronic mail, and/or U. S. Mail this 9th day of February, 2004.

Jeremy Susac, Esq.*
Office of General Counsel, Room 370
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Jason Rojas, Esq.*
Office of General Counsel, Room 370
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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

Susan S. Masterton, Esq.
Sprint-Florida, Incorporated
Sprint Communications Company Limited
Partnership
P.O. Box 2214
Tallahassee, FL 32316-2214

Richard A. Chapkis, Esq. Verizon Florida Inc. P.O. Box 110, FLTC0007 Tampa, FL 33601-0110

Nanette Edwards ITC^DeltaCom 4092 S. Memorial Parkway Huntsville, AL 35802

Mr. James White ALLTEL 601 Riverside Avenue Jacksonville FL 32204-2987

Ms. Laurie A. Maffett Frontier Telephone Group 180 South Clinton Avenue Rochester NY 14646-0700

Mr. R. Mark Ellmer GT Com P. O. Box 220 Port St. Joe FL 32457-0220 Mr. Robert M. Post, Jr. ITS Telecommunications Systems, Inc. P. O. Box 277 Indiantown FL 34956-0277

Ms. Harriet Eudy NEFCOM 11791 110th Street Live Oak FL 32060-6703

Ms. Lynn B. Hall Smart City Telecom P. O. Box 22555 Lake Buena Vista FL 32830-2555

Michael A. Gross
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
& Regulatory Counsel
Florida Cable Telecommunications Assoc.,
Inc.
246 E. 6th Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tracy W. Hatch, Esq.
AT&T Communications of the Southern
States, LLC
101 N. Monroe Street, Suite 701
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Lisa Sapper AT&T 1200 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 8100 Atlanta, GA 30309

Donna McNulty, Esq. WorldCom 1203 Governors Square Blvd, Suite 201 Tallahassee, FL 32301-2960

De O'Roark, Esq. MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. 6 Concourse Parkway, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA 30328 Vicki Kaufman, Esq.
Joe McGlothlin, Esq.
McWhirter, Reeves, McGlothlin,
Davidson, Rief & Bakas, P.A.
117 S. Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL. 32301

Marva Brown Johnson, Esq. KMC Telecom III, LLC 1755 North Brown Road Lawrenceville, GA 30034-8119.

Charles V. Gerkin, Jr.
Regulatory Counsel
Allegiance Telecom, Inc.
9201 North Central Expressway
Dallas, TX 75231

Terry Larkin Allegiance Telecom, Inc. Regional Vice President 700 East Butterfield Road Lombard, IL 60148

James C. Falvey, Esq. Senior Vice president, Regulatory Affairs Xspedius Communications, LLC 7125 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 200 Columbia, MD 21046

Norman H. Horton, Jr. Messer, Caparello & Self, P.A. P.O. Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

Mr. Jake E. Jennings NewSouth Communications Corp. Two N. Main Center Greenville, SC 29601

Jon C. Moyle, Jr., Esq. Moyle, Flanigan, Katz, Raymond & Sheehan, P.A. 118 North Gadsden Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 Charles E. Watkins Covad Communications Company 1230 Peachtree Street, NE, 19th Floor Atlanta, GA 30309

Rand Currier Granite Telecommunications, LLC 234 Copeland Street Quincy, MA 02169

Andrew O. Isar Miller Isar, Inc. 7901 Skansie Avenue, Suite 240 Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Jorge Cruz-Bustillo, Esq.
Supra Telecommunications and
Information Systems, Inc.
2620 S.W. 27th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33133

Mr. Jonathan AuduSupra Telecommunications andInformation Systems, Inc.1311 Executive Center Drive, Suite 220Tallahassee, FL 32301

Thomas M. Koutsky
Vice president, Law and Public Policy
Z-Tel Communications, Inc.
1200 19th Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036

Charles Beck
Office of the Public Counsel
111 W. Madison St., Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Floyd R. Self

 $\label{thm:linear} H. wsers \mbox{\sc TICO\sc MCNTC\sc DeltaCom\sc Prelim\sc Objections\ to\ Staff\ 3 interrog\ 030851\ wpd$