ORIGINAL

STATE OF FLORIDA

COMMISSIONERS: BRAULIO L. BAEZ, CHAIRMAN J. TERRY DEASON LILA A. JABER RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY CHARLES M. DAVIDSON

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL **RICHARD D. MELSON** GENERAL COUNSEL (850) 413-6199

# Hublic Service Commission

October 11, 2004

Mr. Scott Boyd, Executive Director Joint Administrative Procedures Committee Room 120 Holland Building Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

> RE: Docket No. 040436-T- Proposed amendment of Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies

Dear Mr. Boyd:

Enclosed is an original copy of the following forms/materials concerning the above referenced proposed rule:

- A copy of the rule and the forms incorporated by reference into the rule. 1.
- 2. A copy of the F.A.W. notice.

3. A statement of facts and circumstances justifying the proposed rule.

- 4. A federal standards statement.
- 5. A statement of estimated regulatory costs.

If there are any questions with respect to this these rule, please do not hesitate to CMP call me. COM Sincerely. CTR at. More ECR \_\_\_\_ GCL Christiana T. Moore Associate General Counsel OPC 040436 JAPC letter.ctm.doc MMS \_\_\_\_Enclosures Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services cc: RCA SCR SEC CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0850 OTH An Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer PSC Website: http://www.floridapsc.com Internet E-mail: contact@psc.state.fl.us

1	25-4.0161 Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies.
2	(1) As applicable and as provided in Sections 350.113, 364.02(13) and 364.336,
3	Florida Statutes, each company shall remit a fee based upon its gross operating revenue as
4	provided below. This fee shall be referred to as a regulatory assessment fee, and each
5	company shall pay a regulatory assessment fee in the amount of $0.0020$ $0.0015$ gross operating
6	revenues derived from intrastate business. For the purpose of determining this fee, each
7	telecommunications company shall deduct from gross operating revenues any amount paid to
8	another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to
9	provide service to its customers. Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a
10	minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed.
11	(2) Telecommunications companies that owed gross regulatory assessment fees of
12	\$10,000 or more for the preceding calendar year shall pay the fee and remit the appropriate
13	form twice a year. The regulatory assessment fee and appropriate form shall be filed no later
14	than July 30 for the preceding period of January 1 through June 30, and no later than January
15	30 of the following year for the period of July 1 through December 31. Telecommunication
16	companies that owed gross regulatory assessment fees of less than \$10,000 for the preceding
17	calendar year shall pay the fee and remit the appropriate form once a year. The regulatory
18	assessment fee and appropriate form shall be filed no later than January 30 of the subsequent
19	year for the current calendar year operations.
20	(3) If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is
21	extended to the next business day. If the fees are sent by registered mail, the date of the
22	registration is the United States Postal Service's postmark date. If the fees are sent by
23	certified mail and the receipt is postmarked by a postal employee, the date on the receipt is the
24	United States Postal Service's postmark date. The postmarked certified mail receipt is
25	evidence that the fees were delivered. Regulatory assessment fees are considered paid on the
	CODING: Words <u>underlined</u> are additions; words in <del>struck through</del> type are deletions from existing law.

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1	date they are post marked by the United States Postal Service or received and logged in by the
2	Commission's Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services in Tallahassee.
3	Fees are considered timely paid if properly addressed, with sufficient postage, and postmarked
-	no later than the due date.
5	(4) Commission Form PSC/CMP 25 (/), entitled "Local Exchange Company
6	Regulatory Assessment Fee Return," Form PSC/CMP 26 (/), entitled "Pay Telephone
7	Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMP 34 (/), entitled
8	"Shared Tenant Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMP 153
9	(/), entitled "Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; and Form
10	PSC/CMP 1 (), entitled "Alternative Access Vendor Regulatory Assessment Fee
11	Return"; and Form PSC/CMP 7(/), entitled "Competitive Local Exchange Company
12	Regulatory Assessment Fee Return" are incorporated into this rule by reference and may be
13	obtained from the Commission's Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative
14	Services.
15	(5) Each telecommunications company shall have up to and including the due date in
16	which to submit the applicable form and:
17	(a) Remit the total amount of its fee, or
18	(b) Remit an amount which the company estimates is its full fee.
19	(6) Where the company remits less than its full fee, the remainder of the full fee shall
20	be due on or before the 30th day from the due date and shall, where the amount remitted was
21	less than 90 percent of the total regulatory assessment fee, include interest as provided by
22	paragraph (8)(b) of this rule.
23	(7) A company may request from the Division of the Commission Clerk and
24	Administrative Services a 30-day extension of its due date for payment of regulatory
25	assessment fees or for filing its return form.
	CODING: Words <u>underlined</u> are additions; words in struck through type are deletions from existing law.

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<b>1</b> e	(a) The request for extension must be <u>submitted on Form PSC/CCA 124 ( / )</u> written
2	and will be granted if the company has applied for the extension within the time required in
3	(b) below and the company does not have any unpaid regulatory assessment fees, penalties or
4-	interest due from a prior year accompanied by a statement of good cause. Form PSC/CCA
5	124 ( / ), entitled "Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request" is incorporated into this
6	rule by reference and may be obtained from the Commission's Division of the Commission
7	Clerk and Administrative Services.
8	(b) The request for extension must be received by the Division of the Commission
9	Clerk and Administrative Services at least two weeks before the due date.
10	(c) Where a telecommunications company receives an extension of its due date
11	pursuant to this rule, the telecommunications company shall remit a charge in addition to the
12	regulatory assessment fees, as set out in Section 350.113(5), Florida Statutes.
	(d) The return forms may be obtained from the Commission's Division of the
14	Commission Clerk and Administrative Services. The failure of a telecommunications
15	company to receive a return form shall not excuse the company from its obligation to timely
16	remit the regulatory assessment fees.
17	(8) The delinquency of any amount due to the Commission from the
18	telecommunications company pursuant to the provisions of Section 350.113, Florida Statutes,
19	and this rule, begins with the first calendar day after any date established as the due date either
20	by operation of this rule or by an extension pursuant to this rule.
21	(a) A penalty, as set out in Section 350.113, Florida Statutes, shall apply to any such
22	delinquent amounts.
23	(b) Interest at the rate of 12 percent per annum shall apply to any such delinquent
24	amounts.
25	Specific Authority 350.127(2) FS.
	CODING: Words <u>underlined</u> are additions; words in struck through type are deletions from existing law.

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1	Law Implemented 350.113, 364.336 FS.
2	History-New 5-18-83, Formerly 25-4.161, Amended 10-19-86, 1-1-91, 12-29-91, 1-8-95, 12
3	26-95, 7-7-96, 11-11-99,
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from existing law.

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## **Alternative Access Vendor Regulatory Assessment Fee Return**

STATUS:	Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)	FOR PSC USE ONLY Check #
Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return	FIELD(1)	\$1 06-03-001 003001 \$ P 06-03-001 004011
PERIOD COVERED: FIELD(3)	Please Complete Palari If Official Mailing Address Use Changed	Postmark Date Initials of Preparer

#### Please Complete Below If Official Mailing Address Has Changed

(Name of Company)		Address)	(City/State)	(Zip)
LINE NO.	WIDE AREA TOLL SERVICE	FLORIDA GROSS OPERATING REVENUE	INTRASTA	TE REVENUE
1.	Special Access Services		\$	
2.	Private Line Services			
3.	Leased Facilities & Circuits Services			
4.	Miscellaneous Services			
5.	TOTAL REVENUES		\$	
6.	LESS: Amounts Paid to Other Telecommunications Companies (1)			
7.	NET INTRASTATE OPERATING REVENUE for Regulatory Assessme Fee Calculation (Line 5 less Line 6)	រារ	\$	
8.	Regulatory Assessment Fee Due (Multiply Line 7 by 0.0020)			
9.	Penalty for Late Payment (see "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back)			
10.	Interest for Late Payment (see "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back)			
11.	Extension Payment Fee (see "4. Extension" on back)			
12.	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (\$50 MINIMUM)		\$	(2)
	(1) These amounts must be intrastate only and must be verifiable (see "2 Fe	es" on back)		

(2) Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed as provided in Section 364.336, Florida Statutes.

#### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Do you lease telecommunications' facilities? ( ) YES ( ) NO

If YES, who do you lease these facilities from? Name:

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Address: \_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)	(Date)
	Telephone Number () Fax Number ()	_)
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	F.E.I. No	

Instructions For Filing Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

- (Alternative Access Vendor)
- 1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return is required twice a year and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, <u>and</u> On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the prior twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls originating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts.

On Line 6, deduct any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. **DEDUCTIONS MUST** BE <u>INTRASTATE ONLY</u> AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. **FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE:** Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 9). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 10). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. **EXTENSION:** A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request* form (PSC/CCA-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 11):

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. **FEE ADJUSTMENTS:** You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any fee adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your records, and return the original in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. <u>Make your check</u> payable to the Florida Public Service Commission. If you are unable to use the envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

#### TO A VOID PENALTY AND INTEREST CHARGES, THE REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE RETURN MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE FIELD(2)

	Competitiv	ve Local Exchange Comp	any Regulatory Assess	ment Fee Return
STATUS:			Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)	
Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return PERIOD COVERED:		FIELD(1)		Check # 06-03-001 003001 \$ P 06-03-001 004011 \$ 1
FIEL	D(3)			Postmark-Date     Initials of Preparer
		Please Complete Below If Off	icial Mailing Address Has Changed	
	(Name of Company)	(Addr	css)	(City/State) (Zip)
2. L 3. A 4. F 5. L 6. M 7. T 8. L 9. N 10. R 11. P 12. In 13. E 14. T (())	Basic Local Services ong Distance Services (IntraLA Access Services Private Line Services eased Facilities & Circuits Services OTAL REVENUES ESS: Amounts Paid to Other T NET INTRASTATE OPERAT Regulatory Assessment Fee Due renalty for Late Payment (see "3 interest for Late Payment (see "4 Extension Payment Fee (see "4.1 TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (\$50 1) Other long distance revenue 2) These amounts must be intra	relecommunications Companies <sup>(2)</sup> <b>TING REVENUE</b> for Regulatory Assessment (Multiply Line 9 by 0.0020) . Failure to File by Due Date" on back) . Failure to File by Due Date" on back) Extension" on back) <b>MINIMUM</b> ) must be listed on the Interexchange Regulator istate only and must be verifiable (see "2. Fees	y Assessment Fee Return. " on back).	INTRASTATE REVENUE         \$
( ) Facil	lities-Based Provider	CURRENT C ( ) Reseiler ( ) Other:	OMPANY STATUS	
Complete	e below if billing agent if other		NFORMATION	
	(Name)		(Address: City/State/Zip)	( ) (Telephone)

#### COMPANY INFORMATION

Do you lease telecommunications' facilities? () YES () NO If YES, who do you lease these facilities from? Name:

Address: \_

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his/her duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)	(Date)
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	Telephone Number () Fax Number ()	
(Treparer of Form - Frase x Fine (tame)	F.E.I. No.	

1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return is required twice a year and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, <u>and</u> On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the prior twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, when July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee Return may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty or interest.

 FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls originating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts.

On Line 8, deduct any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. **DEDUCTIONS MUST BE** INTRASTATE ONLY AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 11). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 12). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. **EXTENSION:** A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request* form (PSC/CCA -124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 13):

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. FEE ADJUSTMENTS: You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any fee adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your files, and return the original in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. <u>Make your check payable to the</u> Florida Public Service Commission. If you are unable to use the envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

a. .

TO AVOID PENALTY AND INTEREST CHARGES, THE REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE RETURN MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE FIELD(2)

## Local Exchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

Florida Public Service Commission (Filing Instructions on Back of Form)		FOR PSC USE ONLY Check #	
FIELD(1)		\$ \$	06-03-001 003001 P 06-03-001 004011
		\$	1
Please Complete Below If Officia	al Mailing Address Has Changed		
(A	ddress)	(City/State)	(Zip)
Total     Intrastate       \$	<ol> <li>Other long distance private network revenues (5128)</li> <li>Other long distance private network settlements (5129)</li> <li>Other long distance revenues (5160)</li> <li>Other long distance revenues settle- ments (5169)</li> <li>Total Long Distance Revenues (Add Lines 16 through 28)</li> <li><u>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</u></li> <li>Directory revenues (gross billings) (5230)</li> <li>Rent revenues (gross billings) (5240)</li> <li>Corporate operation revenues (5250)</li> <li>Special billing arrangement revenues (5263)</li> <li>Other incidental regulated revenues (5264)</li> <li>Other incidental regulated revenues (5269)</li> <li>Carrier billing &amp; collection revenues (5270)</li> </ol>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>/ENUES</u>	<ul> <li>(Add Lines 30 through 38)</li> <li>40. TOTAL GROSS REVENUES FEE <ul> <li>(Add Lines 10, 15, 29, and 39)</li> </ul> </li> <li>41. Less: <ul> <li>Amounts Paid to Other Telecommunications</li> </ul> </li> <li>42. NET INTRASTATE OPERATING REVENT Fee Calculation (Line 40 less Line 41)</li> <li>43. REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE DUE <ul> <li>(Multiply Line 42 by 0.0020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>44. Less: Payments made for June 30 period, iff</li> <li>45. NET REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE</li> <li>46. Penalty for late payment (see "3. Failure to 47. Interest for late payment (see "3. Failure to 50.0000)</li> </ul>	UE for Regulatory Assessment any DUE File by Due Date" on back) File by Due Date" on back)	\$\$ \$  \$
	(Filing Instructions	FIELD(1)         FIELD(1)         Please Complete Below If Official Mailing Address Has Changed         (Address)         (Address)         Solution of the second sec	(Filing Instructions on Back of Form)         (Filing Instructions on Back of Form)         FIELD(1)         Please Complete Below If Official Mailing Address Has Changed         (Address)         (Address)         (City/State)         S

(1) These amounts must be intrastate only and must be verifiable (see "2. Fees" on back).

(2) Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed as provided in Section 364.336, Florida Statutes.

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)		(Date)
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	Telephone Number ()	Fax Number (	
PSC/CMP-25 (Rev /)	F.E.1. No.		

1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return is required twice a year and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, and On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the prior twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay the 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. <u>Annual revenue amounts are to be reported on the return for the period ended December 31.</u>

On Line 41, deduct any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. **DEDUCTIONS MUST BE INTRASTATE ONLY** AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 46). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 47). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opporturnity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

- 4. **EXTENSION:** A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request* form (PSC/CCA-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 48):
  - 0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or

1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. FEE ADJUSTMENTS: You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any fee adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your files, and return the original in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. Make your check payable to the Florida Public Service Commission. If you are unable to use the envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission2540 Shumard Oak BoulevardTallahassee, FL 32399-0850ATTENTION:Fiscal Services

## Pay Telephone Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

STATUS:	Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)	FOR PSC USE ONLY Check #
Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return	FIELD(1)	\$ 06-03-001 \$ P 06-03-001 004011
period covered: FIELD(3)	Please Complete Below If Official Mailing Address Has Changed	Postmark Date Initials of Preparer

	(Name of Company)	(Address)	(City/State)	(Zip)
LINE NO.	ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION		AMC	DUNT
1.	Gross Operating Revenue (Florida)		\$ <u></u>	
2.	Gross Intrastate Revenue			
3.	LESS: Amounts Paid to Other Tele (see "2. Fees" on back)	communications Companies <sup>(1)</sup>	(	)
4.	<b>TOTAL REVENUES for Regulat</b> (Line 2 less Line 3)	ory Assessment Fee Calculation	\$	
5.	Regulatory Assessment Fee Due – (	Multiply Line 4 by 0.0020)		
6.	Penalty for Late Payment (see "3. Fa	ailure to File by Due Date" on back)		
7.	Interest for Late Payment (see "3. Fa	ailure to File by Due Date" on back)		
8.	Extension Payment Fee (see "4. Ext	ension" on back)		
9.	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (MINIM	IUM \$50.00)	\$	(2)
10.	Number of pay telephones in operat by this Return	ion at close of period covered		
	(1) These amounts must be intrastate only and must	be verifiable (see "2. Fees" on back):		

(2) Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed as provided in Section 364.336, Florida Statutes.

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second

degree.

(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)	(Date)
	Telephone Number () Fax Number	· ()
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	F.E.J. No.	

1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return is required twice a year and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, AND On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the prior twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls orginating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts other than the amount on Line 3.

On Line 3, deduct any amount paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network (including installation charges) to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. **DEDUCTIONS MUST BE INTRASTATE ONLY AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.** 

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 6). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 7). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. EXTENSION: A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request* form (PSC/CCA-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 8):

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. FEE ADJUSTMENTS: You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your records, and return the original in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. <u>Make your check payable to the Florida Public Service Commission</u>. If you are unable to use the envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

## TO AVOID PENALTY AND INTEREST CHARGES, THE REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEE RETURN MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE FIELD(2)

## Shared-Tenant Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return

STATUS	S:	Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)	FOR PSC USE ONLY Check #		
Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return		FIELD(1)	\$ 06-03-001 \$ P 06-03-001 004011		
PERIOD COVERED: FIELD(3)			S I     Postmark Date I     Initials of Preparet		
		Please Complete Below If Official Mailing Address Has Changed			
	(Name of Company)	(Address)	(City/State) (Zip)		
LINE <u>NO.</u>	A(	COUNT CLASSIFICATION	AMOUNT		
1.	Gross Intrastate Ope	\$			
2.	LESS: Amounts Pat (see "2. Fees" on bac	' 			
3.	NET INTRASTATE OPERATING REVENUE for Regulatory Assessment Fee         Calculation (Line 1 less Line 2)				
4.	Regulatory Assessment Fee Due (Multiply Line 3 by 0.0020)				
5.	Penalty For Late Payment (see "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back)				
6.	Interest For Late Payment (see "3. Failure to File by Due Date" on back)				
7.	Extension Payment Fee (see "4. Extension" on back)				
8.	TOTAL AMOUNT	DUE (MINIMUM \$50.00)	\$(2)		

(1) These amounts must be intrastate only and must be verifiable (see "2. Fees" on back).

(2) Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed as provided in Section 364.336, Florida Statutes.

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)	•	•(Date)
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	Telephone Number (	)	
	F.E.I. No		<u> </u>

1. WHEN TO FILE: For companies which owed a total of \$10,000 or more of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return is required twice a year and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, AND On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the prior twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls originating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts.

On Line 2, deduct any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. **DEDUCTIONS MUST BE** INTRASTATE ONLY AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 5). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 6). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or cancel the company's certificate. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. **EXTENSION:** A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Reguest* form (PSC/CCA-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 7):

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

- 5. **FEE ADJUSTMENTS:** You will be notified as to the amount and reason for any fee adjustment. Penalty and interest charges may be **applicable to additional amounts owed the Commission by reason of the adjustment**. The company may file a written request for a refund of any overpayments. The request should be directed to Fiscal Services at the below-referenced address.
- 6. MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this form, make a copy for your file, and return the original in the enclosed preaddressed envelope. Use of this envelope should assure a more accurate and expeditious recording of your payment. <u>Make your check payable to the Florida Public Service Commission</u>. If you are unable to use the enclosed envelope, please address your remittance as follows:

Florida Public Service Commission

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2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

Inter	rexchange Comj	oany Regula	tory Assessn	nent Fee Re	turn		
STATUS:		Florida Public Service Commission (See Filing Instructions on Back of Form)			FOR PSC USE ONLY Check #		
Actual Return Estimated Return Amended Return PERIOD COVERED:	FIELD(1)		2	5 5 8	P 0603001 P 0603001 004011 1		
FIELD(3)					Postmark Date Initials of Preparer		
(Name of Company)	<u> </u>	(Address)		(City/St	ate)	(Zip)	
LINE NO. ACCOUNT C	LASSIFICATION		FLORIDA GROS OPERATING REVE		INTRASTATE I	REVENUE	
<ol> <li>Long Distance Services</li> <li>Access Services</li> <li>Private Line Services</li> <li>Leased Facilities &amp; Circuits Services</li> <li>Miscellaneous Services</li> </ol>	ces		\$		\$		
6. TOTAL Telephone Services			\$ <u></u>		\$		
7. LESS: Amounts Paid to Telecomn	nunications Companies <sup>(1)</sup>		(	)	۰ (	)	
8. TOTAL REVENUES For Regula	ntory Assessment Fee Calcula	tion			\$		
<ol> <li>Regulatory Assessment Fee Due (1)</li> <li>Penalty for Late Payment (see "3.1)</li> <li>Interest for Late Payment (see "3.1)</li> <li>Extension Payment Fee (see "4. Extension Payment Fee (see</li></ol>	Failure to File by Due Date" of Failure to File by Due Date" of File by Due Date of Fi	m back) m back)					
13. TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (\$50 M	IINIMUM)				\$ <u>.                                    </u>	(2)	
<ol> <li>These amounts must be intrast</li> <li>Regardless of the gross opera</li> <li>Florida Statutes.</li> </ol>				fee of \$50 shall be i	imposed as provided i	n Section 364.33	
		JRRENT COMPA					
<ul><li>( ) Facilities-Based Carrier</li><li>( ) Alternate-Operator Service</li></ul>	<ul><li>( ) Reseller</li><li>( ) Rebiller</li></ul>		( ) Call Aggregator ( ) Other:				
	1(	BILLING INFOR	RMATION				
Complete below if billing agent if other th	an yoursen				( )		
(Name) What is the total amount of customer depo Amount: \$ for 20		(Address:	City/State/Zip)		(T nount of bond held (if a Expires:		
Do you lease telecommunications' facilitie	s? () YES () NO	COMPANY INFO	RMATION		_		
If YES, who do you lease these facilities f Address:	rom? Name:					<u></u>	

I, the undersigned owner/officer of the above-named company, have read the foregoing and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the above information is a true and correct statement. I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to misleac a public servant in the performance of his/her duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

		 3
(Signature of Company Official)	(Title)	(Date)
(Preparer of Form - Please Print Name)	Telephone Number ()     Fax Number ()       F.E.I. No.	 

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On or before July 30 for the six-month period January 1 through June 30, <u>and</u> On or before January 30 for the six-month period July 1 through December 31.

For companies which owed a total of less than \$10,000 of assessment fee for the preceding calendar year, this Regulatory Assessment Fee Return and payment must be filed or postmarked:

On or before January 30 for the twelve-month period January 1 through December 31.

However, if July 30 or January 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the Regulatory Assessment Fee may be filed or postmarked on the next business day, without penalty.

2. FEES: Each company shall pay 0.0020 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business, as referenced in Rule 25-4.0161(1), F.A.C. Gross Operating Revenues are defined as the total revenues before expenses. Gross Intrastate Operating Revenues are defined as revenues from calls originating and terminating within Florida. Do not deduct any expenses, taxes, or uncollectibles from these amounts other than the amount in Line 7.

On Line 7, deduct any amounts paid to a telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. <u>Do not deduct</u> any taxes, federal subscriber line charges, interstate long distance access charges, or amounts paid for nonregulated services such as voice mail, inside wire maintenance, or equipment purchases/rentals. DEDUCTIONS MUST BE INTRASTATE ONLY AND MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

3. FAILURE TO FILE BY DUE DATE: Failure to file a return by the established due date will result in a penalty being added to the amount of fee due, 5% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total penalty of 25% (Line 10). In addition, interest shall be added in the amount of 1% for each 30 days or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of 12% per year (Line 11). A Regulatory Assessment Fee Return must be completed, signed, and filed even if there are no revenues to report or if the minimum amount is due.

When a company fails to timely file a Regulatory Assessment Fee Return, the Commission has the authority to order the company to pay a penalty and/or remove the company from the list of companies registered to provide service. The company will have an opportunity to respond to any proposed Commission action.

4. **EXTENSION:** A request for an extension of time up to 30 days may be made by filing the enclosed *Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request* form (PSC/CCA-124), two weeks prior to the filing date. When an extension is granted, a charge shall be added to the amount due (Line 12):

0.75% of the fee to be remitted for an extension of 15 days or less, or 1.5% of the fee for an extension of 16 to 30 days.

In lieu of paying the charges outlined above, a company may file a return and remit payment based upon estimated gross operating revenues. If such return is filed by the normal due date, the company shall be granted a 30-day extension period in which to file and remit the actual fee due without paying the above charges, provided the estimated fee payment remitted is at least 90% of the actual fee due for the period. An automatic 30-day extension to file an actual return may be obtained by checking the "Estimated Return" space in the top left-hand corner on the reverse side.

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Florida Public Service Commission

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2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTENTION: Fiscal Services

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 040436-TP

RULE TITLE:

RULE NO.:

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Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies 25-4.0161

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: To increase the amount of regulatory assessment fees paid by certificated or registered telecommunications companies to cover the Public Service Commission's actual cost of regulating the companies.

SUMMARY: Raises the regulatory assessment fee of .15% of a certificated or registered communication company's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business to .20%. SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REGULATORY COST: The rule will increase the amount of regulatory fees that telecommunications companies must pay. Any person who wishes to provide information regarding the statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative must do so in writing within

21 days of this notice.

SPECIFIC AUTHORITY: 350.127(2), FS

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 350.113, , 364.02(13), 364.336, FS

WRITTEN COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED RULE MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE FPSC, DIVISION OF THE COMMISSION CLERK AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE FOR INCLUSION IN THE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING.

IF REQUESTED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE, A HEARING WILL BE SCHEDULED AND ANNOUNCED IN THE FAW. THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE THESE PROPOSED RULE(S) IS: Christiana Moore, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0862, (850) 413-6245.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

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## 25-4.0161 Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies.

(1) As applicable and as provided in Sections 350.113<u>.364.02(13)</u> and 364.336, Florida Statutes, each company shall remit a fee based upon its gross operating revenue as provided below. This fee shall be referred to as a regulatory assessment fee, and each company shall pay a regulatory assessment fee in the amount of <u>0.0020</u> 0.0015 gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business. For the purpose of determining this fee, each telecommunications company shall deduct from gross operating revenues any amount paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed.

(2) - (3) No change.

(4) Commission Form PSC/CMP 25 (\_/\_\_), entitled "Local Exchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return," Form PSC/CMP 26 (\_/\_\_), entitled "Pay Telephone Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMP 34 (\_/\_), entitled "Shared Tenant Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMP 153 (\_/\_\_), entitled "Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; and Form PSC/CMP 1 (\_/\_), entitled "Alternative Access Vendor Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; and Form PSC/CMP 7(\_/\_), entitled "Competitive Local Exchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return" are incorporated into this rule by reference and may be obtained from the Commission's Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services.

(5) - (7) No change.

(a) The request for extension must be <u>submitted on Form PSC/CCA 124 ( / )</u> written and will be granted if the company has applied for the extension within the time required in (b) below and the company does not have any unpaid regulatory assessment fees, penalties or interest due from a prior year accompanied by a statement of good cause. Form PSC/CCA 124 ( / ), entitled "Regulatory Assessment Fee Extension Request" is incorporated into this rule by reference and may be obtained from the Commission's Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services.

(b) - (8) No change.

Specific Authority 350.127(2) FS.

Law Implemented 350.113, 364.02(13), 364.336 FS.

History-New 5-18-83, Formerly 25-4.161, Amended 10-19-86, 1-1-91, 12-29-91, 1-8-95, 12-26-

95, 7-7-96, 11-11-99,\_\_\_\_\_.

NAME OF PERSON ORIGINATING PROPOSED RULE: Dale Mailhot

NAME OF SUPERVISOR OR PERSONS WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED RULE:

Florida Public Service Commission.

DATE PROPOSED RULE APPROVED: October 5, 2004

DATE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHED IN FAW: Volume 30, Number 21, May 21, 2004

If any person decides to appeal any decision of the Commission with respect to any matter considered at the rulemaking hearing, if held, a record of the hearing is necessary. The appellant must ensure that a verbatim record, including testimony and evidence forming the basis of the appeal is made. The Commission usually makes a verbatim record of rulemaking hearings. Any person requiring some accommodation at this hearing because of a physical impairment should call the Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services at (850) 413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at: 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

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#### STATEMENT OF FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFYING RULE

Sections 350.113 and 364.336, Florida Statutes, require regulated companies under the Commission's jurisdiction to pay fees to the Commission based upon their gross operating revenues. Section 350.113(3) further requires that such regulatory assessment fees (RAF) shall, to the extent practicable, be related to the cost of regulation. Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., currently sets the RAF rate at .15 percent of the companies' gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business. Based upon the most recent projection of costs for Fiscal Year 2005-2006, RAFs collected from the telecommunications industry at the current rate are expected to be at least \$3.1 million less than the cost of regulating the industry. This has resulted from changes in state and federal law, resulting structural changes to the industry, a Florida Supreme Court decision excluding directory advertising revenues from RAFs, a decline in telephone company intrastate revenues subject to the fee and changes in the overall state budget process. Internally, the Commission has changed the way it allocates employees' work time to more accurately reflect work time spent on the different industries. The percentage of revenues paid by telecommunications companies must be increased to cover the actual costs of regulation.

#### STATEMENT ON FEDERAL STANDARDS

There is no federal standard on the same subject.



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# Hublic Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

## -M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: September 9, 2004

**TO:** Office of General Counsel (Moore)

FROM: Division of Economic Regulation (Hewitt)

**RE:** Revised Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs for Proposed Rule Amendments to 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees; Docket No. 040436-TP

### SUMMARY OF THE RULE

Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) sets the rate at which telecommunications companies are assessed for regulatory costs. Currently, the assessed rate is 0.15% of a certificated or registered company's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business.

The proposed rule would increase the telecommunications companies RAF rate to 0.20% because the current rate is not generating sufficient RAFs to cover the regulatory costs.

#### ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ENTITIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED

The telecommunications companies certificated or registered by the Commission would be affected. There are 10 incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs), 23 alternative access vendors (AAVs) plus 17 with competitive local exchange authority, 404 competitive local exchange companies (CLECs), 468 payphone companies, 31 shared tenant services companies and 703 interexchange companies currently active. The increase in RAFs may be passed on to the customers of some of these companies.

#### RULE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT COST AND IMPACT ON REVENUES FOR THE AGENCY AND OTHER STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

The usual rule implementation costs would be incurred with this rule change as well as the cost to revise RAF forms. Enforcement costs should remain the same with the rule change. There would be a positive impact on Commission RAF revenues of an estimated \$2,712,680 (\$2,926,300 less \$213,120 paid to the state General Revenue Fund), based on the latest estimated gross intrastate revenues for 2005-06:

Estimated 2005-06 Gross Intrastate Revenues -	\$5,852,600,000
RAFs @ 0.15% -	\$8,778,900
RAFs @ 0.20% -	\$11,705,200

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There could be an increase in the amount of RAFs paid on other state and local government entities' regulated communications companies' bills, depending on how much of the increased rate is passed on to the customer.

#### ESTIMATED TRANSACTIONAL COSTS TO INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES

Regulated companies would have to prepare their RAF forms for submission to the Commission as usual but at a higher rate. Companies able to revise the amount collected from customers at the higher rate may have some minor transactional costs to implement the increase.

The proposed rule change would increase the bill of regulated companies' customers if passed along. The RAF on a \$100 telecom bill could have a maximum increase from \$0.15 to \$0.20 due to the RAF rate increase if 100% of the increased rate were to be passed on to the customer.

All ILECs but one are under price cap regulation and could not include the higher RAF in their basic telephone rates. ILECs under price caps may increase their prices once a year by the amount of inflation minus 1%. The one ILEC under rate base regulation would have to wait until a rate case to pass along a RAF increase. ILECs may be able to recover some of the increased RAF through unregulated services such as call-waiting or caller ID charges depending on how competitive their markets are. Based on the actual year 2002 reported ILEC intrastate revenues of \$4,970,336,667, ILECs' RAFs would have been \$2,485,168 higher with the proposed RAF rate.

Other telecommunications companies do not have price caps but being in a competitive market they may choose not to pass along the full amount of the RAF increase. All other telecommunications companies besides the ILECs had year 2002 intrastate revenues of \$1,583,874,666 and would have paid an additional \$791,937 with the higher RAF. Although the increased RAF is \$0.05 per \$100 in revenues, some companies at the margin may decide that the increase makes it that much harder to make enough revenue to stay in business. If there are any companies that leave the market, the increased RAF benefits to the commission would be reduced by at least the minimum \$50 RAF paid per company.

## IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES, SMALL CITIES, OR SMALL COUNTIES

Small businesses, cities, and counties would have their telecom bills from regulated companies increase by the increase in the RAF rate if passed along by their telecom companies. — The main benefit would come from maintaining required regulatory oversight by the Commission.

cc: Mary Andrews Bane Chuck Hill Paula Isler Hurd Reeves

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