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January 11, 2005

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo
Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

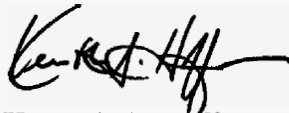
RE: Docket No. 040604-TL

Dear Ms. Bayo:

This letter constitutes the response of TDS Telecom d/b/a TDS Telecom/Quincy Telephone, ALLTEL Florida, Inc., Northeast Florida Telephone Company d/b/a NEFCOM, and GTC, Inc. d/b/a GT COM, Smart City Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a Smart City, ITS Telecommunications Systems, Inc. and Frontier Communications of the South, LLC (the "Small LECs") to the formal written proposal filed and served by BellSouth in this docket on January 7, 2005. The Small LECs support BellSouth's proposal with the understanding and caveat that the Small LECs reserve their right to pursue the establishment by the Commission of a competitively neutral interim state universal service fund or state lifeline funding mechanism to recover the state \$3.50 credit to lifeline customers, either in this docket or in a separate docket.

Please acknowledge receipt of the original and fifteen copies of this letter by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the copy to me. Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Hoffman

KAH/rl
Enclosures

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
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cc: All Parties of Record, via electronic mail and U.S. Mail
Adam Teitzman, Esq., via electronic mail and hand delivery

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