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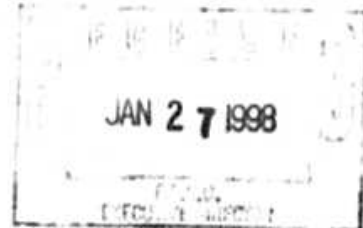
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BY HAND DELIVERY

Julia Johnson, Chairman
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Request for Deferral of Item 8 -- Docket No. 971486-TI

Dear Chairman Johnson:

MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI) hereby requests that consideration of the staff recommendation in Docket No. 971486-TI -- which is currently scheduled as Item No. 8 for the Commission's February 3, 1998 agenda conference -- be deferred for two agendas, until March 10, 1998.

The recommendation involves a proposed show cause proceeding against MCI. MCI is requesting the deferral to give it the opportunity to meet with staff prior to agenda about the factual allegations underlying the recommendation.

Please ask your staff to advise me as quickly as possible whether this deferral request will be granted.

Very truly yours,

Richard D. Melson

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMU _____
- CTR _____
- EDG _____
- LEG _____
- LIT _____
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- OTH _____

RDM/mee
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