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DATE: September 22, 1998

TO: Tommy Williams, Division of Communications

FROM: Eva P. Samaan, Division of Auditing and Financial Analysis

RE: Docket No. 981093-TI, Comtex Corporation, Financial Analysis for Certificate Application for Intrastate Interexchange Telecommunications Service

Section 364.337 (3), Florida Statutes, requires the following:

The commission shall grant a certificate of authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications service upon a showing that the applicant has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service in the geographic area proposed to be served.

Also Section 364.01 (3) and (4) states that:

(3) The Legislature finds that the competitive provision of telecommunications service, including local exchange telecommunications service, is in the public interest.

and

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(4)(d) The Commission shall exercise its exclusive jurisdiction in order to: (d) Promote competition by encouraging new entrants into telecommunications markets . . .

Regarding the showing of financial capability, the Finance staff has analyzed the unaudited financial statements of Comtex Corporation (CC) for the period ending August 31. 1998. An audit could change one's opinion of the company's financial condition. As the attached schedule shows, CC has adequate liquidity, sufficient common equity and reported a positive net income for the period.

AFA ______ In this matter, CC is asking for a certificate to provide IXC service. Staff notes the limited nature of the application and that no customer provided funds appear to be at risk. For purposes of granting a certificate based on the financial information provided, the financial capability CAF ______ appears adequate.

CMJ ______ The applicant attests to its financial capability to provide and maintain the proposed telecommunications service by noting that it has available financing through a line of credit with Seafirst Bank of Bank of America. In addition, CC has accounts receivable of \$140,000 to LE______ \$200,000 that have not been pledged to any lender. Based on this showing, the applicant Line______ appears to meet the financial capability standard of Section 364.337, Florida Statutes.

C: Division of Legal Services

Division of Records and Reporting (2)

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IXC TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

FROM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF 08/31/98

CURRENT ASSETS	\$165,729
CURRENT LIABILITIES	122,552
CURRENT RATIO	1.35
CASH	11,031
COMMON EQUITY	55,322
TOTAL DEBT	173,382
TOTAL INVESTOR CAPITAL	228,704
COMMON EQUITY RATIO	24%
NET INCOME	50,785
RETURN ON EQUITY	92%
NMF = No Meaningful Figure	