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DIVISION OF APPEALS DAVID SMITH DIRECTOR (850) 413-6245

Public Service Commission

October 15, 1999

Mr. Carroll Webb Joint Administrative Procedures Committee Room 120 Holland Building Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: Docket No. 991138-TP - Proposed Amendment of Rule 25-

4.0161, F.A.C., Regulatory Assessment Fees;

Telecommunications Companies

Dear Mr. Webb:

The Commission has approved the amendment of Rule 25-4.0161 without changes.

We plan to file the rule for adoption on October 22, 1999.

Sincerely,

Christiana T. Moore

Associate General Counsel

ADT0161.CTM Enclosure

cc: Division of Records & Reporting

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25-4.0161 Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies.

(1) As applicable and as provided in s. 350.113, F.S., and s. 364.336, F.S., and s. 364.337, F.S., 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 0.0015 of its gross operating revenues derived from intrastate business. For the purpose of determining this fee, each interexchange telecommunications company and each pay telephone company shall deduct from gross operating revenues any amounts paid to another telecommunications company for the use of any for use of the local network to a telecommunications network to provide service to its customers. company providing local service. Regardless of the gross operating revenue of a company, a minimum annual regulatory assessment fee of \$50 shall be imposed.

(2) Telecommunications companies that owed gross regulatory assessment fees of \$10,000 or more for the preceding calendar year shall pay the fee and remit the appropriate form twice a year. The regulatory assessment fee and appropriate form shall be filed no later than July 30 for the preceding period of January 1 through June 30, and no later than January 30 of the following year for the period of July 1 through December 31. Telecommunication companies that owed gross regulatory assessment

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- 1 -

fees of less than \$10,000 for the preceding calendar year shall
pay the fee and remit the appropriate form once a year. The
regulatory assessment fee and appropriate form shall be filed no
later than January 30 of the subsequent year for the current
calendar year operations.

- (3) If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is extended to the next business day. If the fees are sent by registered mail, the date of the registration is the United States Postal Service's postmark date. If the fees are sent by certified mail and the receipt is postmarked by a postal employee, the date on the receipt is the United States Postal Service's postmark date. The postmarked certified mail receipt is evidence that the fees were delivered. Regulatory assessment fees are considered paid on the date they are post marked by the United States Postal Service or received and logged in by the Commission's Division of Administration in Tallahassee. Fees are considered timely paid if properly addressed, with sufficient postage, and postmarked no later than the due date.
- (4) Commission Form PSC/CMU 25 (/)(07/96), entitled "Local ExchangeCommunication Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return," applicable to local exchange telecommunications companies; Form PSC/CMU 26 (/)(07/96), entitled "Pay Telephone Service Provider Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMU 34 (/)(07/96), entitled "Shared Tenant Service Provider Regulatory Assessment

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Fee Return"; Form PSC/CMU 153 (/) (07/96), entitled 2 "Interexchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; and Form PSC/CMU 1 (/) (07/96), entitled "Alternative Access Vendor 3 Regulatory Assessment Fee Return"; and Form PSC/CMU 7 4 5 (/) (07/96), entitled "Alternative Local Exchange Company Regulatory Assessment Fee Return" are incorporated into this rule 6 7 by reference and may be obtained from the Commission's Division of Administration. 8 (5) Each telecommunications company shall have up to and 9 including the due date in which to submit the applicable form 10 and: 11 (a) Remit the total amount of its fee or 12 13 (b) Remit an amount which the company estimates is its full 14 fee. (6) Where the company remits less than its full fee, the 15 remainder of the full fee shall be due on or before the 30th day 16 from the due date and shall, where the amount remitted was less 17

than 90 percent of the total regulatory assessment fee, include interest as provided by subsection (8)(b) of this rule.

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- (7) A company may request from the Division of Administration a 30-day extension of its due date for payment of regulatory assessment fees or for filing its return form.
- (a) The request for extension must be written and accompanied by a statement of good cause.
 - (b) The request for extension must be received by the Division

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- 3 -

1 | of Administration at least two weeks before the due date.

(c) Where a telecommunications company receives an extension of its due date pursuant to this rule, the telecommunications company shall remit a charge in addition to the regulatory assessment fees, as set out in s. 350.113(5), F.S.

- (d) The return forms may be obtained from the Commission's Division of Administration. The failure of a telecommunications company to receive a return form shall not excuse the company from its obligation to timely remit the regulatory assessment fees.
- (8) The delinquency of any amount due to the Commission from the telecommunications company pursuant to the provisions of s. 350.113, F.S., and this rule, begins with the first calendar day after any date established as the due date either by operation of this rule or by an extension pursuant to this rule.
- (a) A penalty, as set out in s. 350.113, F.S., shall apply to any such delinquent amounts.
- (b) Interest at the rate of 12 percent per annum shall apply to any such delinquent amounts.
- 20 | Specific Authority: 350.127(2), F.S.
- 21 Law Implemented: 350.113, 364.336, 364.337(4), F.S.
- 22 History: New 5/18/83, formerly 25-4.161, Amended 10/16/86,
- 23 1/1/91, 12/29/91, 1/8/95, 12/26/95, 07/08/96,_____.

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