GERRY, FRIEND & SAPRONOV, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SUITE 1450 THREE RAVINIA DRIVE ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30346-2131

> (770) 399-9500 FACSIMILE (770) 395-0000 EMAIL: gfslaw@gfslaw.com

> > October 21, 1999

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Florida Public Service Commission Division of Records and Reporting 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

991639-TX 991640-TX

Re: Application of Empire Telecom Services, Inc. ("Empire") for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Service ("Application")

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed are the original and three (3) copies of the financial statements of Empire's parent, Empire Technology Corporation ("Financial Statements"), which are being filed in connection with the Application. Three (3) copies of the Financial Statements are redacted and "CONFIDENTIAL" is prominently displayed on each page thereof. Pursuant to Florida Statute 364.183(1) and Section 25-22.0065(5)(a) of the Florida Public Service Commission's rules, Empire requests confidential treatment of the Financial Statements.

Please file the Financial Statements in your usual fashion and return one (1) file-stamped copy of the document to us in the enclosed envelope.

If you have any questions or comments, please call the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Hudak

This claim of confidentiality was filed by or on behalf of a telecommunications company for Confidential Document No. 212-37 The document has been placed in locked storage pending staff advice on handling. Your name must be on the CASR to access the material. If it is undocketed, your division director must obtain written permission from the EXD/Tech before you can access it.

CAH/jh

Enc.

cc: Empire Telecom Services, Inc. (with enclosure)

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DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

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Re: Application of Empire Telecom Services, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Service ("Application")

Dear Sir or Madam:

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Enclosed are the original and seven (7) copies of the Application. Please file the Application in your usual fashion and return one (1) file-stamped copy to us in the enclosed envelope.

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$250.00 to cover the cost of filing the Application.

If you have any questions or comments, please call the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Hudak

CAH/jh

Enc.

cc: Empire Telecom Services, Inc. (with enclosure)

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