State of Florida



Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

ALM

DATE: March 7, 2000

TO: Nancy Pruitt, Division of Communications

FROM: David J. Draper, Division of Auditing and Financial Analysis

RE: Docket No. 000246-TX, Fairpoint Communications Corporation, Financial Analysis for

Certificate Application for Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications Service

Section 364.337 (1), Florida Statutes, requires the following:

The commission shall grant a certificate of authority to provide alternative local exchange 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

(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 Fairpoint Communications Corporation (FAC) for the period ending December 31, 1998. An audit could change one's opinion of the company's financial condition. As the attached schedule presents, FAC shows adequate liquidity, but reports marginal common equity and negative income for the period.

In this matter, FAC is asking for a certificate to provide alternative local exchange telecommunications service. For purposes of granting a certificate based on the financial information provided, the financial capability appears marginal.

Although an analysis of the financial statements reveals the applicant is in a marginal financial position, the applicant attests to its financial capability to provide and maintain the proposed telecommunications service by noting that FAC has over \$440 million in assets and has the ability to obtain additional financing through traditional commercial lending institutions. Based on this showing, the applicant appears to meet the financial capability standard of Section 364.337, Florida Statutes.

cc: Division of Legal Services

Division of Records and Reporting (2)

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

03075 MAR-98

FPSC-RECORDS, REPORTING

DOCKET NO. 000246-TX FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

ALTERNATIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

FROM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| | AS OF 12/31/1998 (,000) |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | \$35,636 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | 26,078 |
| CURRENT RATIO | 1.37 |
| CASH | 13,241 |
| COMMON EQUITY | 9,886 |
| TOTAL DEBT | 40,141 |
| TOTAL INVESTOR CAPITAL | 50,027 |
| COMMON EQUITY RATIO | 20% |
| NET INCOME | (8,000) |
| RETURN ON EQUITY | NMF |

NMF = No Meaningful Figure