EXHIBIT B

GTE Florida's Responses to Staff's 3rd Set of Interrogatories to GTE Docket No. 990649-TP Page 5 of 14

REDACTED

b. How does GTE Florida plan to finance these capital expenditures? Please include the amounts of retained earnings, new common equity issues, new short-term debt issues, and new long-term debt issues in your response.

Objection:

- a. GTEFL objects to this Interrogatory because, to the extent responsive data exists, it is proprietary and highly confidential competitive information. GTEFL further objects to this Interrogatory on the grounds that planning forecast information is irrelevant to selecting a cost model to determine the long run, forward-looking cost of providing unbundled network elements, and is not otherwise relevant to any issue in this proceeding.
- b. GTEFL objects to this Interrogatory because, to the extent responsive data exists, it is proprietary and highly confidential competitive information. GTEFL further objects to this Interrogatory on the grounds that planning forecast information is irrelevant to selecting a cost model to determine the long run, forward-looking cost of providing unbundled network elements, and is not otherwise relevant to any issue in this proceeding.

Response:

Notwithstanding the above objections, GTEFL responds that ______ of capital expenditures have been planned for GTE Florida for 2000. These expenditures will be financed with internally generated funds. Plans for 2001 and 2002 have not been finalized.

Respondent: Robert G. Deter

Manager – Financial Analysis

1255 Corporate Dr. Irving, TX 75038

- What are GTE Florida's target capital structure ratios for financial planning purposes? For this response, please include the target common equity ratio, target long-term debt ratio, etc in your response. If the target is expressed as a range rather than a specific percentage, please state that range.
 - b. What is GTE Florida's rationale and basis for its target capital structure ratios?

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