BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for certificate to provide alternative local exchange telecommunications service by Everest Broadband Networks of Florida, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 001725-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-01-0206-PAA-TX
ISSUED: January 23, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE TO
PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Everest Broadband Networks of Florida, Inc. (Everest) has applied for a certificate to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications (ALEC) service, pursuant to Section 364.337, Florida Statutes. Upon review of its application, it appears that Everest has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service. Accordingly, we hereby grant to Everest Certificate No. 7724 which shall authorize it to provide ALEC services throughout the State of Florida, except for the

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ORDER NO. PSC-01-0206-PAA-TX DOCKET NO. 001725-TX PAGE 2

territories of earnings-regulated small Local Exchange Companies, as set forth in Section 364.337(1), Florida Statutes.

If this Order becomes final and effective, it shall serve as Everest's certificate. Everest should, therefore, retain this Order as proof of certification. The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.335 and 364.337, Florida Statutes.

ALEC providers are subject to Chapter 25-24, Florida Administrative Code, Part XV, Rules Governing Telecommunications Service Provided by Alternative Local Exchange Companies. ALEC providers are also required to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, and Chapters 25-4, Florida Administrative Code.

In addition, Section 364.337(2), Florida Statutes, requires ALECs which provide basic local telecommunications service to provide access to 911 services. This Commission has no rules specifying the 911 services that either an Incumbent Local Exchange Company (ILEC) or an ALEC must provide; however, 911 service that is inferior to that provided by the ILEC would clearly not be in the public interest. Accordingly, we find that Section 364.337(2), Florida Statutes, requires ALECs which provide basic local telecommunications services to provide at least the same level of 911 services as that provided by the ILEC serving the same area.

Further, under Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAFs) of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. A RAFs Return notice will be mailed each December to Everest for payment in January. Neither the cancellation of the certificate nor the failure to receive a RAFs Return notice shall relieve Everest from its obligation to pay RAFs.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby grant Certificate No. 7724 to Everest Broadband Networks of Florida, Inc., which shall authorize it to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications services, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDER NO. PSC-01-0206-PAA-TX DOCKET NO. 001725-TX PAGE 3

ORDERED that this Order shall serve as Everest Broadband Networks of Florida, Inc.'s certificate and should be retained by Everest Broadband Networks of Florida, Inc. as proof of certification. It is further

ORDERED that each Alternative Local Exchange Company which provides basic local telecommunications services shall provide at least the same level of 911 services as that provided by the incumbent local exchange company serving the same area. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this <u>23rd</u> day of <u>January</u>, <u>2001</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

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ORDER NO. PSC-01-0206-PAA-TX DOCKET NO. 001725-TX PAGE 4

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing that is available under Section 120.57, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on February 13, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.