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

DATE:

March 26, 2009

TO:

Office of Commission Clerk (Cole)

FROM:

Division of Regulatory Compliance (Isler) Win Office of the General Counsel (McKay) Wen

RE:

Docket No. 090032-TI - Bankruptcy cancellation by Florida Public Service

Commission of IXC Registration No. TI904, issued to Integretel, Inc., effective

December 31, 2008.

AGENDA: 04/07/09 - Regular Agenda - Proposed Agency Action - Interested Persons May

**Participate** 

**COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED:** All Commissioners

PREHEARING OFFICER:

Administrative

**CRITICAL DATES:** 

None

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

None

FILE NAME AND LOCATION:

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## **Discussion of Issues**

Issue 1: Should the Commission grant Integretel, Inc., as listed in Attachment A, cancellation of its IXC tariff and remove its name from the register with an effective date of December 31, 2008, due to bankruptcy; direct the Division of Administrative Services to request permission from the Florida Department of Financial Services to write off any unpaid Regulatory Assessment Fees, including statutory late payment charges, instead of requesting collection services; and require the company to immediately cease and desist providing telecommunications service in Florida?

Recommendation: Yes, the company should be granted a bankruptcy cancellation of its IXC tariff and Registration No. TI904 with an effective date of December 31, 2008. (Isler, McKay)

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

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Staff Analysis: See attached proposed Order.

**Issue 2**: Should this docket be closed?

<u>Recommendation</u>: Yes, this docket should be closed if no protest is filed and upon issuance of a Consummating Order. (McKay)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: The Order issued from this recommendation will become final upon issuance of a Consummating Order, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's decision files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the Proposed Agency Action Order. The docket should then be closed upon issuance of a Consummating Order.

# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Bankruptcy cancellation by Florida Public Service Commission of IXC Registration No. TI904, issued to Integretel, Inc., effective December 31, 2008.

DOCKET NO. 090032-TI ORDER NO. ISSUED:

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MATTHEW M. CARTER II, Chairman LISA POLAK EDGAR KATRINA J. MCMURRIAN NANCY ARGENZIANO NATHAN A. SKOP

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER GRANTING CANCELLATION OF INTRASTATE INTEREXCHANGE COMPANY TARIFF AND REMOVAL FROM THE REGISTER DUE TO BANKRUPTCY

#### 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.

Integretel, Inc. currently holds Intrastate Interexchange Telecommunications Carrier (IXC) Registration No. TI904. Integretel, Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California, San Jose Division on September 16, 2007. As of November 1, 2008, the company is no longer operating.

Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, telecommunications companies must pay a minimum annual Regulatory Assessment Fee if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year and provides for late payment charges as outlined in Section 350.113, Florida Statutes, for any delinquent amounts.

On January 16, 2009, this Commission received a letter dated December 17, 2008, from Mr. Paul J. Weber, Chief Restructuring Officer, appointed by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The letter requested cancellation of the company's IXC registration and included payment of the 2008 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF). Our staff contacted Mr. Weber because the 2007 RAF is unpaid. Our staff was advised that the Commission did not file a claim with the U.S.

Bankruptcy Court for the 2007 RAF, a pre-petition debt. There are no funds to pay the 2007 RAF, which we were asked to write-off.

Pursuant to 11 USCS § 362 (b)(4) of the US Bankruptcy Code, the filing of a petition for bankruptcy relief acts as an automatic stay that enjoins a governmental entity from exercising its regulatory authority to collect a pre-petition debt. Additionally, in any bankruptcy liquidation or reorganization, secured creditors are given the highest priority in the distribution and, normally, receive all of the distributed assets. Regulatory Assessment Fees, late payment charges, and penalties owed by a company to the Florida Public Service Commission, as well as monetary settlements of cases resolving issues of failure to pay such fees, are not secured debts and, as a practical matter, are uncollectible in a bankruptcy proceeding where liquidation occurs. Therefore, this Commission would be prevented from collecting the RAFs owed by this company, and from assessing and collecting a penalty for failure to pay the fees. The company owes the 2007 RAF and accrued late payment charges.

We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.02, 364.336, and 364.285, Florida Statutes. Accordingly, we hereby find that Integretel, Inc.'s IXC Registration No. TI904 shall be cancelled due to bankruptcy, effective December 31, 2008. In addition, any unpaid Regulatory Assessment Fees shall not be sent to the Florida Department of Financial Services for collection, and permission for this Commission to write off the uncollectible amount shall be requested. Integretel, Inc. shall immediately cease and desist providing intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Florida.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Integretel, Inc.'s Registration No. TI904 to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications service is hereby cancelled, effective December 31, 2008, due to bankruptcy. It is further

ORDERED that the outstanding Regulatory Assessment Fee, including accrued statutory late payment charges, shall not be sent to the Department of Financial Services for collection. The Division of Administrative Services, instead, shall request permission to write off the uncollectible amount. It is further

ORDERED that if Integretel, Inc.'s IXC tariff is cancelled and its name removed from the register in accordance with this Order, it shall immediately cease and desist providing telecommunication services in Florida. 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 Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings" attached hereto. It is further

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

Ву	ORDER	of	the	Florida	Public	Service	Commission	this	 day	of
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(SEAL)

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### 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 Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_\_.

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/these docket(s) before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.