BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Applications for alternative local exchange telecommunications services.

Network Plus, Inc. d/b/a Hale and Father, Inc. Public Telephone Network, Inc. DIECA Communications, Inc. Ernest Communications, Inc. DOCKET NO. 980909-TX

DOCKET NO. 980928-TX
DOCKET NO. 980931-TX
DOCKET NO. 981027-TX /

ORDER NO. PSC-98-1357-FOF-TX ISSUED: October 12, 1998

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JOE GARCIA
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

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

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed in this Order 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.

The entities listed below have applied for certificates to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications (ALEC) service, pursuant to Section 364.337, Florida Statutes. Upon review of their applications, it appears that these entities have

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sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service. Accordingly, we hereby grant to each of these entities the certificates depicted below, which shall authorize them individually to provide ALEC services statewide, except that the ALEC may not offer basic local telecommunications service within the territories of earnings-regulated small local exchange companies, as set forth in Section 364.337(1), Florida Statutes.

ENTITY'S NAME	CERTIFICATE NO.
Network Plus, Inc. d/b/a Hale and Father, Inc.	5711
Public Telephone Network, Inc.	5718
DIECA Communications, Inc.	5719
Ernest Communications, Inc.	5722

If this Order becomes final and effective, it shall serve as each entity's certificate. It should, therefore, be retained by each entity as proof of certification.

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.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby grant, to the entities listed herein, certificates to provide Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications service, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

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ORDERED that this Order shall serve as each entity's certificate and should be retained as proof of certification. It is further

ORDERED that each Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications 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 any protest to the action proposed herein shall specify the entity or entities to which it applies. It is further

ORDERED that, if a protest is filed as to the certification of any particular entity or entities, that protest shall not prevent the action proposed herein from becoming final with regard to the remaining entities listed in this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective 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, these Dockets shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 12th day of October, 1998.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(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 or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, 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 or judicial review 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 November 2, 1998.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective on the day subsequent to the above date.

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.

If this order becomes final and effective on the date described, above, any party substantially affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.