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RECORDS AND  
REPORTING

December 18, 1998

**BY HAND DELIVERY**

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Room 110, Easley Building  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 981834-TP

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above captioned docket on behalf of e.spire Communications, Inc. are an original and fifteen copies of a Notice of Joinder and Petition to Intervene.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,



Norman H. Horton, Jr.

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMU \_\_\_\_\_
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- EAG \_\_\_\_\_
- LEG \_\_\_\_\_
- LIN \_\_\_\_\_
- QPC \_\_\_\_\_
- RCH \_\_\_\_\_
- SEC \_\_\_\_\_
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OT \_\_\_\_\_

NHH/amb  
Enclosures  
cc: James C. Falvey, Esq.  
Parties of Record

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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RECORDS AND REPORTING

Done 12/29/98

orig to Hong

**BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In re: Petition of Competitive )  
Carriers for Commission Action )  
to Support Local Competition )  
in BellSouth's Service Territory )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Docket No. 981834-TP  
Filed: December 18, 1998

**NOTICE OF JOINDER AND PETITION TO INTERVENE**

Comes now, American Communications Services, Inc. - Jacksonville, Inc., d/b/a e.spire™ Communications, Inc. ("e.spire"), and files this Joinder in the Petition to Support Local Competition and Petition to Intervene and as basis would show:

1. e.spire whose address is 133 National Business Parkway, Suite 200, Annapolis Junction, Maryland 20701 is a competitive carrier authorized to provide local exchange service in Florida. Persons who should receive copies of the notices, orders and pleadings in this docket are:

Norman H. Horton, Jr.  
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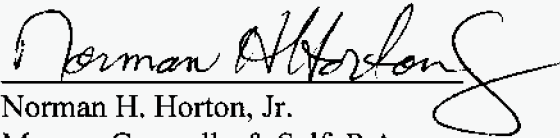
2. On December 10th the Florida Competitive Carriers Association ("FCCA") filed a Petition with the Commission seeking (1) the establishment of a generic BellSouth UNE pricing docket to address a number of issues affecting local competition; (2) establishment of a competitive forum to address BellSouth operational issues; (3) establishment of third party testing of BellSouth's operational support systems; and (4) establishment of rulemaking for expedited dispute resolution applicable to all Florida local exchange carriers. e.spire concurs with these requests and would join

with the FCCA and the other petitioners in requesting the Commission to take the action described in the petition.

3. e.spire is currently providing competitive services in Florida and has encountered the same situation described in the petition, thus, e.spire has the same substantial interests as the petitioners.

Wherefore, e.spire Communications, Inc. requests the Commission to acknowledge e.spire's Joinder in the Petition and allow e.spire to intervene.

Respectfully submitted



Norman H. Horton, Jr.  
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Attorneys for e.spire Communications, Inc.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of e.spire Communications, Inc.'s Notice of Joinder and Petition to Intervene in Docket 981834-TP have been served upon the following parties by Hand Delivery (\*) and/or U. S. Mail this 18th day of December, 1998.

Martha Carter Brown, Esq.\*  
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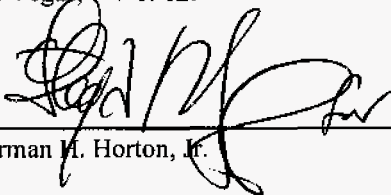
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