BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Joint application of Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens") (owner of 100% of outstanding common stock of Citizens Telecommunications Company, Inc. d/b/a Citizens Communications Company, holder of IXC Certificate No. 4465), Frontier Communications of the South, Inc. (holder of LEC Certificate No. 5) and Frontier Communications of America, Inc. (IXC and ALEC certificates pending), subsidiaries of Frontier Subsidiary Telco Inc.("Frontier"), for approval of acquisition of all stock of Frontier by Citizens.

DOCKET NO. 001202-TP ORDER NO. PSC-00-2427-PAA-TP ISSUED: December 18, 2000

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER APPROVING ACQUISITION

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.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, provides that a person may not acquire ownership or control of any telecommunications facility, or any extension thereof for the purpose of providing telecommunications services to the public, including the acquisition, transfer, or assignment of majority organizational control or controlling stock ownership, without prior approval from this Commission.

By letter dated August 22, 2000, Citizens Communications Company (Citizens), Frontier Communications of the South, Inc. (Frontier of the South) and Frontier Communications of America (Frontier of America and collectively with Frontier of the South, "Frontier", subsidiary of Frontier Subsidiary Telco Inc.) filed with this Commission a joint application for approval of acquisition of all stock of Frontier by Citizens. Citizens, owner of 100% of outstanding common stock of Citizens Telecommunications Company, Inc. d/b/a Citizens Communications Company, is the holder of Interexchange Telecommunications Certificate No. 4465 and Frontier of the South, Inc. is holder of Local Exchange Certificate No. 5. The companies have stated that the transaction will be virtually transparent to their customers in Florida and it will not affect the services being provided. The companies have stated that they will continue to operate under their existing certificated names and tariffs on file with this Commission.

In accordance with our authority under Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, to approve the acquisition or transfer of majority organizational control or controlling stock ownership of a telecommunications company providing service in Florida, we have reviewed the Petition of Citizens and Frontier, and find it reasonable to approve it. We have based our review and decision upon an analysis of the public's interest in efficient, reliable telecommunications service. Our decision does not address the potential impact of the transfer on the competitive market in Florida, or on the companies' or their competitors' interests. We emphasize, however, that our approval of the Petition pursuant to our authority under Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, does not preclude us from addressing any of our concerns that may arise regarding this transaction to the appropriate federal or state agencies. ORDER NO. PSC-00-2427-PAA-TP DOCKET NO. 001202-TP PAGE 3

Based on the foregoing, it is,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Citizens Communications Company, Frontier Communications of the South, Inc. and Frontier Communications of America's request for approval of acquisition of all stock of Frontier Communications of the South, Inc. and Frontier Communications of America by Citizens Communications Company is hereby approved. 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>18th</u> day of <u>December</u>, <u>2000</u>.

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 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 January 8, 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.