

STATE OF FLORIDA

Commissioners:  
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DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE SERVICES  
WALTER D'HAESELEER  
DIRECTOR  
(850) 413-6600

**Public Service Commission**

May 21, 2001

Mr. Robert T. Furlong, President  
Equity Pay Telephone Co., Inc.  
5747 Highway 17 North  
Guyton, GA 31312-3141

**Re: Docket No. 010686-TC**

Dear Mr. Furlong:

A docket has been opened by staff of the Florida Public Service Commission for nonpayment of the 2000 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF), which was due January 30, 2001, plus statutory penalty and interest charges. A late notice was mailed February 21, 2000, and to date, Commission records show that payment has not been received.

It is staff's intention to file a recommendation imposing a \$500 fine for this rule violation, or cancelling your telecommunications certificate. The Commissioners will vote at an upcoming Agenda Conference whether or not to accept staff's recommendation. A Proposed Agency Action Order will then be issued within 20 days after the vote and your company will have 21 days to protest the Order. It should be noted that just paying the delinquent RAF amount will not prevent your certificate from being cancelled.

If the Order is not protested and the past due amount, including statutory penalty and interest charges, is not paid, then your certificate will be cancelled, and the past due amount will be turned over to the Florida Comptroller's Office for further collection attempts. Therefore, it is important that you contact staff as soon as possible, but no later than June 5, 2001, to discuss your options.

Options for resolving this docket are enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact me at (850) 413-6502-voice, (850) 413-6503-fax, at the address below, or via internet e-mail at [pisler@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:pisler@psc.state.fl.us).

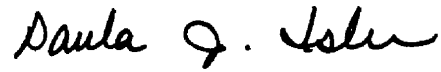
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Mr. Robert T. Furlong, President

Page 2

May 21, 2001

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paula J. Isler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula J. Isler, Research Assistant  
Bureau of Service Quality

Enclosure

cc: Docket No. 010686-TC  
Division of Legal Services (Elliott)

## CANCELLATION OF THE CERTIFICATE

- **Voluntary Cancellation** - In order to be granted a voluntary cancellation, the company must: 1) write a letter requesting cancellation of the certificate and explain why (such as no longer in the payphone business); 2) pay all past due charges in full; and 3) pay the 2001 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF) or provide a date certain that it will be paid (such as 30 days from the date of the Commission Order cancelling the certificate).
- **Involuntary Cancellation** - If the company does nothing to resolve this docket, the certificate will be cancelled on the Commission's own motion. All outstanding RAFs, including penalty and interest charges, will be turned over to the Comptroller's Office for collection. In addition, Rule 25-24.511(5), F.A.C., states that "Only one certificate per applicant will be granted. A new certificate will not be granted to any applicant who has previously had a certificate involuntarily cancelled." This means that if the company chooses this option, it could not reapply for a new certificate at a later date.

## TO KEEP THE CERTIFICATE ACTIVE

- Pay the past due RAF amount in full, including statutory penalty and interest charges, plus the fine imposed, after the Order is issued and the certificate will remain active. Just paying the past due amount will not prevent your certificate from being cancelled.
- Propose a settlement - All settlements must include the following elements:
  - 1) Docket number;
  - 2) A check for the past due amount in full. It should be noted that just paying the past due amount will not prevent your certificate from being cancelled;
  - 3) A statement that the company has taken steps to prevent future late payments of the regulatory assessment fees and what those steps are;
  - 4) A waiver of objection to the administrative cancellation of the certificate in the event your offer is accepted and you fail to comply with the terms which you have offered; and
  - 5) Make a specific monetary settlement.

Any settlement offer should be addressed to Ms. Blanca Bayó, Director, Division of Records and Reporting, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850. The proposed settlement amount should **not** be paid at this time, instead only the past due regulatory assessment fee, plus penalty and interest charges should be paid. The settlement amount, if approved by the Commission, must be paid within 10 business days after the Commission Order is issued.