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April 19, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N. W.  
Room 222  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace, CC  
Docket No. 96-61

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to express concern about the FCC's proposal to eliminate the tariff filing requirements for interstate, interexchange carriers in the proceeding referenced above. American Computer and Electronics Corporation (ACE\*COMM) is a small business that manufactures and distributes telecommunications management systems. ACE\*COMM has depended upon the information previously available in public tariff filings. Without such information, ACE\*COMM will be unable to continue to manufacture products that rely on these public filings. ACE\*COMM will suffer a significant decrease in revenue. The reduced revenue can lead to reduced employment, opportunities within our company. Additionally, our customers (both large and small businesses) will suffer a decrease in their ability to control costs which again can lead to reduced competitiveness for U. S. companies in the global market.

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American Computer and Electronics Corporation

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Although the FCC proposes to eliminate the tariff filing requirements for interstate, interexchange carriers, the FCC tentatively recommends that interexchange telephone companies be required to maintain pricing information for use by the FCC upon request. I strongly urge the FCC to require that such information also be available to the *public* upon request. This could be done cheaply, efficiently, and with a minimum of administrative burden to either the FCC or to the interexchange carriers. The possible mechanisms for the provision of such information could include some sort of central clearinghouse, on-line availability, or physical availability at the designated carrier locations.

Such information will enable informed decision making by consumers -- particularly small businesses that do not have the resources to obtain this information absent a public availability requirement. This information will also more readily enable consumers to determine if interexchange carriers are pricing in a non-discriminatory manner. Even if the tariff filing requirement is eliminated, other provisions of the Communications Act require that carriers provide service in a non-discriminatory manner. Absent some mechanism for customers to determine carriers' pricing, however, it is hard to tell if carriers are complying with this statutory requirement.

In a robustly competitive market such as that for interstate, interexchange telecommunications services, the availability of pricing information will only further foster that competitiveness. For example, pricing information could assist resellers in determining the financial feasibility of market entry, which can further increase the competitiveness of the market. By extension, it will increase the competitiveness of small businesses that are able to readily minimize their communications costs. I, therefore strongly urge the FCC to require interexchange telephone companies to make their pricing information available to the public in some fashion.

Sincerely,



S: Joseph Dorr  
Vice President