



TROY STATE UNIVERSITY

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System Director
Information and Technology
247 Adams Administration Bldg.
Troy, Alabama 36082
(334) 670-3628

April 23, 1996 FCC MAIL ROOM

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

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

Dear Mr. Caton:

I write to express concern about the FCC's proposal to eliminate the tariff filing requirements for interstate, interexchange carriers in the proceeding referenced above. Troy State University is a public university that serves its residence hall students with long distance service. Troy State has depended upon the information previously available in public tariff filings to price our services fairly to our student customers. Without such information, we will be unable to provide satisfactory prices to our student customers.

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 provisions of such information could include a central clearinghouse, on-line availability, or physical availability at designated carrier locations.

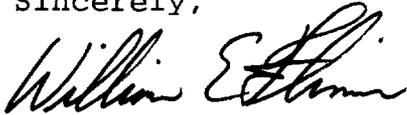
Such information will enable informed decision making by consumers - particularly small businesses that do not have the resources to obtain this information absent a public availability requirement. This information will also more readily enable consumers to determine if interexchange carriers are pricing 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.

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Without some mechanism for customers to determine carriers' pricing, however, it is hard to tell if carriers are complying with this statutory requirement.

In a competitive, active 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 urge, therefore, the FCC to require interexchange telephone companies to make their pricing information available to the public in some fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William E. Flinn".

William E. Flinn
System Directory of
Information & Technology

c: Dr. Douglas Patterson, Vice Chancellor
Mr. Johnny Huffman, Director Telecommunications

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Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
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Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

FCC MAIL ROOM

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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. (NAME OF COMPANY) is a (DESCRIBE BUSINESS; IF YOU AND/OR YOUR CUSTOMERS ARE SMALL BUSINESSES, EMPHASIZE THIS). (NAME OF COMPANY) has depended upon the information previously available in public tariff filings to (DESCRIBE). Without such information, (DESCRIBE IMPACT ON COMPANY AND COMPETITIVE HARM).

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 designated carrier locations.

Such information will enable informed decisionmaking 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,



President - TELSoft Solutions, Inc.

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