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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Elizabeth Holowinski
(Maryland Bar Only)

July 16, 1997

BY MESSENGER

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

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: CC Docket No. 96-61; Notice of Ex Parte Meeting

Dear Mr. Caton:

On Tuesday, July 15, 1997, Dave Ecret, Special Assistant to the Governor for Telecommunications and Utilities, and Thomas K. Crowe, counsel for the Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("Commonwealth"), met with Patrick Donovan, Bill Bailey and Jeremy Jennings to discuss telecommunications matters concerning the Commonwealth.

During the meeting, the participants discussed the status of the Guam/Commonwealth fiber optic cable, including issues pertaining to tariffing of services over the cable and required rate integration of such services effective August 1, 1997. The participants also discussed outstanding issues regarding rate integration, including the GTE's legal action in the U.S. Court of Appeals to stay Part 69 of the Commission's Report and Order in CC Dkt. No. 96-61.

This ex parte notice is being filed in the Office of the Secretary on July 16, 1997, and should be included in the public record.

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Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Holowinski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Elizabeth Holowinski
Counsel for the Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands

cc: Patrick Donovan
Bill Bailey
Jeremy Jennings