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March 18, 1999

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Magalie Roman Salas, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAR 18 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Oral Ex Parte Presentation in CC Docket No. 98-184

Dear Ms. Salas:

Yesterday representatives of RCN Telecom Services, Inc. and this firm met with staff members from the Common Carrier Bureau and the Office of Plans and Policies to discuss matters concerning the above-referenced proceeding. Those attending for RCN: Joseph Kahl, D.G. Gulati, R.C. Leibig, Russell Blau, and myself. From the Bureau and OPP the following attended: Johanna Mikes, To-Quyen Truong, Claire Blue, Johnson Garrett, Bill Rogerson, Tom Krattenmaker, Marilyn Simon, Patrick DeGraba, and Michael Kende.

RCN provided an overview of its services and orientation to residential users. It gave illustrative examples of the difficulties and delays encountered in attempting to secure a wide variety of agreements with GTE and Bell Atlantic, including such matters as reciprocal compensation agreements, interconnection, OSS and conduit space. RCN discussed its perceptions of how the Bell Atlantic/NYNEX merger has affected such matters. RCN also contended that the merger would not serve the public interest because as ILECs grow larger they become more difficult and inefficient to deal with. Counsel contended that in light of both GTE's and Bell Atlantic's consistent failure to meet their obligations under section 251 of the Communications Act of 1996, their merger would only exacerbate anticompetitive activities. Counsel also outlined in the meeting a letter filed yesterday with the Commission responding to GTE/Bell Atlantic's request for permission to provide GTE's interLATA services on a merged basis, even if Bell Atlantic has not achieved section 271 authority. RCN expressed its opposition to such relief, on legal and public interest grounds.

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List A B C D E

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sharon Gantt, caused the written summarization of an oral ex parte presentation in CC

Docket No. 98-184, to be hand-delivered to the following on March 18, 1999.

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