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Formerly Bellcore...
Performance from Experience

Michael S. Slomin
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RECEIVED

MAY 12 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 12, 1999

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

Re: Ex Parte Submission in CC Docket No. 97-231; CC Docket No. 97-121; CC Docket No. 97-208; CC Docket No. 97-137 and CC Docket No. 98-121

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter transmitted today to each Commissioner and to others listed on the letter relating to Telcordia Technologies' operations support systems testing activities in Texas. I am submitting two copies of this notice to the Secretary pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Slomin".

Michael S. Slomin

Enclosure



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May 12, 1999

Honorable William E. Kennard
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Submission in CC Docket No. 97-231; CC Docket No. 97-121; CC Docket No. 97-208; CC Docket No. 97-137 and CC Docket No. 98-121

Dear Chairman Kennard:

In an April 9, 1999 letter filing with each Commissioner, MCI repeated certain allegations made previously in Texas concerning the role of Telcordia Technologies (formerly Bellcore) in the Texas Public Utilities Commission's evaluation of certain Southwestern Bell operations support systems. In the attached letter to the Texas Commission, Telcordia has reaffirmed its commitment to performing in a professional, fair and unbiased manner, and to maintaining the integrity of its engagement.

I am providing a copy of that letter for your information, and asking that this be associated with the above-referenced docket files.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. S. Slomin".

Michael S. Slomin

Attachment

Copy (w/ att.) to:

Honorable Susan Ness
Honorable Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Honorable Michael Powell
Honorable Gloria Tristani
Lawrence Strickling, Esq.
Robert Atkinson, Esq.
Kathryn Brown, Esq.



Formerly Bellcore...
Performance from Experience

Sarita Khurana
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May 10, 1999

Honorable Patrick Wood III, Chairman
Honorable Judy Walsh, Commissioner
Honorable Brett Perlman, Commissioner
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue,
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Project No. 20000 - 3/24/99 Letter of MCI;
3/18/99 Letter of AT&T

Dear Commissioners:

Telcordia Technologies, formerly Bellcore, is serving as a consultant to the Texas Public Utility Commission ("PUC") in its evaluation of certain Southwestern Bell Telephone Company ("SWBT") operation support systems ("OSSs"). In a March 24 letter to the PUC, MCI made a number of incorrect and unwarranted allegations of supposed Telcordia conflict of interest and inadequacies of the test plan that Telcordia prepared for the PUC's consideration. In a March 18 letter, AT&T expressed similar concerns. Because MCI and AT&T attacked Telcordia's integrity and professional reputation, as well as the collaborative process established by the PUC which Telcordia supports, we felt it was important to respond briefly and go on record in assuring the PUC that Telcordia is committed to maintaining the integrity of our engagement and performing it in a professional, fair and unbiased manner.

Telcordia's Work Is Unbiased. Telcordia has been hired as a consultant to the PUC. In this engagement, Telcordia takes its direction solely from the PUC and provides its deliverables solely to the PUC, or otherwise if directed by the PUC. The engagement team working on this activity is separate from other Telcordia work, including work that Telcordia performs for SWBT. At the direction of the PUC, Telcordia is to be compensated for its work by SWBT, but Telcordia provides information to SWBT regarding this engagement only with the approval of the PUC or its staff. Any contentions about these matters to the contrary are simply incorrect.

The fact that Telcordia performs other work for SWBT does not create a conflict of interest. Like most providers of telecommunications services and equipment, Telcordia performs work for a very broad variety of domestic and international clients, many of whom are competitors. Telcordia operates with a combination of procedures that assure protection of client proprietary information and that the work will be performed professionally, so as to meet individual needs objectively and without bias. We want to assure you that this is the case of all of Telcordia's undertakings, including this one for the PUC.

Telcordia Supports the PUC's Collaborative Process. In recognition of the complexity of the statistical, testing and operational issues potentially involved, the PUC instituted a collaborative process in which PUC staff, Telcordia, MCI, AT&T, other CLECs and SWBT are to participate. In response, the participants formed a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to meet weekly. MCI, and to a lesser extent AT&T, criticizes certain aspects of the test plan that Telcordia developed based upon discussions in the TAG sessions. Certain points raised in the MCI and AT&T letters were addressed in the course of that process. Telcordia is committed to supporting the cooperative, collaborative process established by the PUC to address the issues raised by all parties. We believe that such a collaborative process is better adapted to resolution of technical issues than formal filings by parties with the PUC, and we anticipate that remaining MCI and AT&T concerns will be addressed in that process and by the PUC.

In summary, Telcordia is committed to the performance of this engagement for the PUC in a professional, fair and totally unbiased manner – which is what the PUC expected when it selected Telcordia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarita Khurana", written over a horizontal line.

Sarita Khurana