



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

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June 9, 1999
Via Federal Express

Re: Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Matter of the
Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications
Act of 1996
CC Docket No. 96-98 /
FCC 99-70

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

Dear Ms. Salas:

As the Federal Communications Commission undertakes its Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the above referenced matter, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PA PUC) takes this opportunity to remark upon the significance of Unbundled Network Elements to the development of competitive local telecommunications markets. New entrants in Pennsylvania have shown a strong interest in UNEs.

The PA PUC appreciates the important work the FCC has undertaken to present its Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision in AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Utils. Bd., 119 S.Ct. 721 (1999). Our silence on questions posed for comment should not be construed as evidencing any particular position or view. Rather, the PA PUC is preparing to sit *en banc* in the upcoming weeks to hear evidence and decide a number of issues concerning the implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 in Pennsylvania, including access to various parts of Bell Atlantic-Pennsylvania, Inc.'s network. These issues have been presented to the PA PUC in the context of two comprehensive and competing settlement petitions, namely the Petition of Senators Fumo, Madigan and White, The Pennsylvania Cable & Telecommunications Association and 7 Competitive Local Exchange Carriers for

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Adoption of Partial Settlement Resolving Pending Telecommunications Issues, at Docket No. P-00991648, and the Joint Petition for Global Resolution of Telecommunications Proceedings, at Docket No. P-00991649.

In order to prevent even the appearance of a pre-judgment of the issues raised in these petitions now pending before the PA PUC, the PA PUC declines the opportunity to comment further in the rulemaking at this time. The PA PUC wishes to reserve the right, however, to participate fully in the proceeding at a future date, when appropriate. Consequently, the PA PUC should be listed as a party to this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (717) 787-4518.

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

By:



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Assistant Counsel

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