

September 30, 2003

Ex Parte – Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 01-338 (Verizon 271 forbearance petition) and
WC Docket No. 03-157 (Verizon TELRIC forbearance petition)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 29, 2003, Lori Wright of MCI, Richard Metzger of Lawler, Metzger & Milkman, Tom Koutsky of Z-Tel, and I met with Dan Gonzalez, Commissioner Martin's Senior Legal Advisor to discuss Verizon's pending petition seeking forbearance from section 271. We pointed out that the Commission had rejected the basis for that forbearance petition in the recent *Triennial Review Order* by concluding that section 271 establishes independent access obligations on the BOCs. MCI and Z-Tel further urged the Commission to reject the Verizon petition for the reasons set forth in their prior written submissions in this proceeding. We also distributed copies of Z-Tel's oppositions and reply comments in the referenced dockets. Those filings are attached.

Sincerely,

/s/

Christopher J. Wright
Counsel to Z-Tel Communications, Inc.