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March 2, 2004

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## EX PARTE NOTICE

### *Electronic Filing*

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: ALLTEL Communications, Inc., Petitions for Designation  
as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier  
CC Docket No. 96-45, DA Nos. 03-1881, 03-1882, 03-3824, 03-3825

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Glenn S. Rabin, Vice President, Federal Communications Counsel for ALLTEL Communications, Inc. ("ALLTEL"), and the undersigned, also representing ALLTEL, met yesterday with William Maher, Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, to discuss ALLTEL's petitions for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") in Virginia, Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

The ALLTEL representatives discussed why ALLTEL's petitions should be granted and answered questions concerning the petitions and the criteria that should be applied in ruling on ETC petitions, including the criteria set forth in the recent *Virginia Cellular ETC Order*.<sup>1</sup> The ALLTEL representatives explained that, in light of *Virginia Cellular* and the service commitments that ALLTEL made in its supplement to the record filed yesterday regarding its ETC petitions, the petitions should be granted expeditiously as to the non-rural service areas covered by the petitions. The views

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<sup>1</sup> *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Virginia Cellular, LLC Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier In the Commonwealth of Virginia*, FCC 03-338, CC Docket No. 96-45 (Jan. 22, 2004).

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expressed by the ALLTEL representatives during the meeting tracked the positions set forth in ALLTEL's filings in these proceedings.

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is filed with your office for inclusion in the public record of the above referenced proceeding. If you have any questions regarding this *ex parte* notice, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

/s/ Cheryl A. Tritt

Cheryl A. Tritt  
Counsel for ALLTEL Communications, Inc.

cc: William Maher  
Glenn S. Rabin