



Brett A. Kissel
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July 30, 2004

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Room TWB-204
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: NOTICE OF EX-PARTE COMMUNICATION

*Accounting Safeguards Order, CC Docket No. 96-150; "Operate Independently"
Requirements for Section 272 Affiliates, WC Docket No. 03-228*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 29, 2004, Brett Kissel and Terri Hoskins of SBC Communications Inc. (SBC) met with Cliff Rand, Bill Dever, Christi Shewman and Debbie Weber of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss potential SBC plans with respect to centralizing OI&M functions.

In accordance with section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed in the above referenced proceeding via the Commission's ECFS system. Should you have any questions regarding the attached, please do not hesitate to contact me by whatever means are most convenient for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brett A. Kissel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

cc: Cliff Rand
Debbie Weber
Christi Shewman
Bill Dever