

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Developing a Unified Intercarrier	)	CC Docket No. 01-92
Compensation Regime	)	
	)	

**COMMENTS OF THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) respectfully submits these brief initial comments in response to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) released March 3, 2005, concerning the development of a unified intercarrier compensation (ICC) regime. We applaud the FCC for launching this major effort at modifying the myriad of compensation schemes that currently exist in the telecommunications industry. While the FCC has sought comments on a wide range of issues and some specific proposals, the PSCW is submitting very limited comments at this time because we are aware that the proposed plans identified in the FNPRM are likely undergoing modifications. These plans will need a more comprehensive review once submitted.

The workshop process led by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Intercarrier Compensation Task Force (ICTF) to narrow differences between ICC reform proposals and to craft a consensus proposal of its own is to be lauded. Staff of the PSCW have participated in this process so the PSCW is aware that the ICTF will soon file a revised version of its February 16, 2005, draft ICC reform proposal. It is also likely that other

parties will submit revised proposals in the initial round of comments. Accordingly, the PSCW is reserving judgment on any specific changes and retaining the prerogative to file comments on the revised proposal(s) in reply comments.

The FNPRM also solicited comments on principles filed by NARUC, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), and a wireless industry association. The PSCW supports the broad set of principles laid out in the document submitted by NARUC. We have also developed a set of condensed core principles that the PSCW believes are crucial to promote fairness in treatment between and among providers, platforms, jurisdictions, and consumers. The PSCW intends to use these principles in its review and evaluation of the comments and revised ICC proposals and recommends the FCC also consider using these core principles in its final evaluation of the ICC reform. These core principles are:

1. Rely on rate uniformity to avoid arbitrage.
2. Maintain technological and competitive neutrality by requiring compensation for exchange of telecommunications traffic regardless of type of provider (wireline, wireless, cable, VoIP, etc.).
3. Encourage maintenance and use of the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) infrastructure without discouraging the development and use of alternative network infrastructures.
4. Avoid sudden and dramatic changes in wholesale and retail rates (i.e. rate shock).
5. Promote universal service, especially in rural and high cost areas.
6. Provide for timely cost recovery through a balance of wholesale and retail rates. Avoid cost over- or under-recovery and windfalls.
7. Promote jurisdictional cooperation between the FCC and state commissions to implement a national policy.

## **Conclusion**

The PSCW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in this important proceeding. In light of the expectation that various ICC proposals will be revised, the PSCW

reserves judgment on specific proposals at this time, and may file comments on revised proposals in reply comments. The PSCW respectfully requests that the FCC consider application of the seven core principles in its final analysis of the ICC reform proposals.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, May 19, 2005

By the Commission:

*/s/ Christy L. Zehner*

Christy L. Zehner  
Secretary to the Commission

CLZ:JJR:reb:t:\federal\FCC\FCC 2005\ICC Reform CC 01-92 Comment.doc