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Government and Regulatory Affairs

990000

July 13, 1999

Ms. Blanca Bayo
Clerk, Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: CC Docket 96-45, Report and Order, In the Matter of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service - Self-certification as a Rural Telephone Company

Dear Ms. Bayo:

The above captioned proceeding states that all carriers "must notify the Commission and its state commission that, for the purposes of universal service support determination, it meets the Section 3(37) definition of a rural carrier." Attached is the copy of the requisite annual self-certification letter sent to the FCC on June 18, 1999, for the local exchange carrier owned by TDS TELECOM that operates in Florida.

Please forward any response regarding this certification to:

Jean Pauk
Manager - Policy Development
TDS TELECOM
301 South Westfield Road
P.O. Box 5158
Madison WI 53717-1799

RECEIVED & FILED
[Signature]
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (608) 664-4152.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Pauk

Jean Pauk
Manager - Policy Development

Attachments / 1

cc: Tom McCabe

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Government and Regulatory Affairs

June 16, 1999

Sheryl Todd
Universal Service Branch
Accounting and Audits Division
Federal Communications Commission
2100 M Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Todd:

Re: CC Docket 96-45, Report and Order, In the Matter of the Federal-State Joint Board
on Universal Service – Self-certification as a Rural Telephone Company

On behalf of our local operating company Quincy Telephone Company, TDS TELECOM files this certification statement pursuant to the above captioned proceeding. In that Report and Order, the FCC stated that a carrier "must notify the Commission and its state commission that, for the purposes of universal service support determination, it meets the Section 3 (37) definition of a rural carrier."

Section 3 (37) states that the term "rural telephone company" means a local exchange carrier operating entity to the extent that such entity –

- (A) provides common carrier service to any local exchange carrier study area that does not include either—
 - (i) any incorporated place of 10,000 inhabitants or more, or any part thereof, based on the most recently available population statistics of the Bureau of the Census; or
 - (ii) any territory, incorporated or unincorporated, included in an urbanized area, as defined by the Bureau of the Census as of August 10, 1993;
- (B) provides telephone exchange service, including exchange access, to fewer than 50,000 access lines;
- (C) provides telephone exchange service to any local exchange carrier study area with fewer than 100,000 access lines; or
- (D) has less than 15 percent of its access lines in communities of more than 50,000 on the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

I, Jean Pauk, hereby certify that, Quincy Telephone Company, NECA Study Area Code 210338 & 220338 with headquarters at 107 W. Franklin Street, P.O. Box 189, Quincy, Florida, 32351-0189 qualifies as a rural telephone company under Section 3 (37) (A), (B), (C), and (D) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Quincy qualifies because it: i) provides common carrier service to a study area that includes neither an incorporated place of 10,000 inhabitants nor an urbanized area; ii) provides telephone exchange service to 14,036 access lines; iii) provides service to a study area with 14,036 lines; and iv) has no access lines in communities of more than 50,000. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 608-664-4152.

Sincerely,



Jean Pauk
Manager – Policy Development

Attachments