Redauck Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP

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NEW YORK OFFICE THE CHRYSLER BUILDING 405 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10174

March 6, 2000

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

000293-TT

Re:

Application of ConnectSouth Communications of Florida, Inc. for Authority to

Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Service in Florida

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of ConnectSouth Communications of Florida, Inc. ("ConnectSouth") please find an original and five (5) copies of ConnectSouth's application for authority to provide interexchange telecommunications service in Florida. Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$250.00 to cover the application filing fee.

Please note that ConnectSouth is requesting confidential treatment of its financial statements which are attached as Exhibit 1 to its certification application. Pursuant to Section 364.183(1) of the Florida Rules of Practice and Procedure, ConnectSouth is filing one original copy of its financial information and two (2) redacted copies. The financial information included in Exhibit 1 to ConnectSouth's application, contains proprietary, commercially sensitive information that, if disseminated, could be used to the Applicant's detriment by competitors. Applicant therefore respectfully seeks to have this information protected as it constitutes sensitive and proprietary data.

Please date-stamp the enclosed extra copy of this filing and return in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided. Should you have any questions concerning this filing, please do not hesitate to contact Paul W. Garnett at (202) 945-6925. Thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,

Andrew D. Lipman Paul W. Garnett

Counsel for ConnectSouth Communications of Florida, Inc.

Enclosures

AFA APP

CAF CIMIU CTR EAG LEG

MAS

OPC RRR

SEC WAW

OTH

Walker D'Haeseleer, Director Communications Division cc:

Christopher E. Hugman

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

02970 MAR-78

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MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER

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02/21/00

ConnectSouth
Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2000

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