BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Notification of transfer of ownership and control of NewSouth Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiary, NewSouth Communications Corp. (holder of ALEC Certificate No. 5754 and IXC Certificate No. 5770), to an existing shareholder, NSHI Ventures LLC, through the issuance of additional voting stock.

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DOCKET NO. 010237-TP ORDER NO. PSC-01-0764-PAA-TP ISSUED: March 26, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman J. TERRY DEASON LILA A. JABER BRAULIO L. BAEZ MICHAEL A. PALECKI

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, provides that a person may not acquire ownership or control of any telecommunications facility, or any extension thereof for the purpose of providing telecommunications services to the public, including the acquisition, transfer, or assignment of majority organizational control or controlling stock ownership, without prior approval from this Commission.

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ORDER NO. PSC-01-0764-PAA-TP DOCKET NO. 010237-TP PAGE 2

By letter dated February 13, 2001, NewSouth Holdings, Inc. (NewSouth Holdings), NewSouth Communications Corp. (NewSouth Communications), and NSHI Ventures LLC (NSHI Ventures) filed with this Commission an application for approval of transfer of ownership and control of NewSouth Holdings and its subsidiary, NewSouth Communications, to NSHI Ventures, through the issuance of additional voting stock. NewSouth Communications is the holder of Alternative Local Exchange Telecommunications Certificate No. 5754 Interexchange Telecommunications Certificate and No. 5770. NewSouth Holdings has stated that the transaction will be virtually transparent to its customers in Florida and it will not affect the services being provided. NewSouth Holdings has further stated that it will continue to operate under its existing certificated name and tariff on file with this Commission.

In accordance with our authority under Section 364.33, Florida Statutes, to approve the acquisition or transfer of majority organizational control or controlling stock ownership of a telecommunications company providing service in Florida, we have reviewed the Petition of NewSouth Holdings, NewSouth Communications, and NSHI Ventures, and find it appropriate to approve it. We have based our review and decision upon an analysis of the public's interest in efficient, reliable telecommunications service.

Based on the foregoing, it is,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that NewSouth Holdings, Inc., NewSouth Communications Corp., and NSHI Ventures LLC's request for approval of transfer of ownership and control of NewSouth Holdings, Inc. and NewSouth Communications Corp. to NSHI Ventures LLC, through the issuance of additional voting stock is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review" attached hereto. It is further ORDER NO. PSC-01-0764-PAA-TP DOCKET NO. 010237-TP PAGE 3

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>26th</u> Day of <u>March</u>, <u>2001</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing that is available under Section 120.57, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on <u>April 16, 2001</u>. ORDER NO. PSC-01-0764-PAA-TP DOCKET NO. 010237-TP PAGE 4

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.