

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for certificate to provide competitive local exchange telecommunications service by Meridian TeleSystems, Inc.	DOCKET NO. 050177-TX ORDER NO. PSC-05-0519-PAA-TX ISSUED: May 12, 2005
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The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

BRAULIO L. BAEZ, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY
CHARLES M. DAVIDSON
LISA POLAK EDGAR

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE TO
PROVIDE COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

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.

Meridian TeleSystems, Inc. (Meridian) has applied for a certificate to provide Competitive Local Exchange Telecommunications (CLEC) service, pursuant to Section 364.337, Florida Statutes. Upon review of its application, it appears that Meridian has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service. Accordingly, we hereby grant to Meridian Certificate No. 8580 which shall authorize it to provide CLEC services throughout the State of Florida.

If this Order becomes final and effective, it shall serve as Meridian's certificate. Meridian should, therefore, retain this Order as proof of certification. We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.335 and 364.337, Florida Statutes.

CLEC providers are subject to Chapter 25-24, Florida Administrative Code, Part XV, Rules Governing Telecommunications Service Provided by Competitive Local Exchange Companies. CLEC providers are also required to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 25-4, Florida Administrative Code.

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Pursuant to Section 364.337(2), Florida Statutes, basic telecommunications service provided by an CLEC "... must include access to operator services, "911" services, and relay services for the hearing impaired." Further, Section 364.337(2), requires that an CLEC's "911" service "... shall be provided at a level equivalent to that provided by the local exchange telecommunications company serving the same area."

In addition, under Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAFs) of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. A RAFs Return notice will be mailed each December to Meridian for payment by January 30th. Neither the cancellation of the certificate nor the failure to receive a RAFs Return notice shall relieve Meridian from its obligation to pay RAFs.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby grant Certificate No. 8580 to Meridian TeleSystems, Inc. , which shall authorize it to provide Competitive Local Exchange Telecommunications services, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall serve as Meridian TeleSystems, Inc.'s certificate and should be retained by Meridian TeleSystems, Inc. as proof of certification. 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 the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings" attached hereto. It is further

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

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 12th day of May, 2005.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn
Kay Flynn, Chief
Bureau of Records

(S E A L)

VSM

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 the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 2, 2005.

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/these docket(s) before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.