Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of )
Petition for Rulemaking Concerning  ) RM-8535
Provision of Access for  )
900 Number Service  )

COMMENTS OF THE WEATHER CHANNEL
IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

The Weather Channel, pursuant to Section 1.405 of The Commission's Rules, submits these Comments in response to the Petition for Rulemaking filed on October 18, 1994 ("Petition") by the Teleservices Industry Association ("Petitioner"). The Weather Channel supports the Petitioner's proposal that the Commission should issue a Notice of Proposal Rulemaking to explore the feasibility and benefits of adopting rules and regulatory policies that require 900 number portability.

The Weather Channel, Inc., a subsidiary of Landmark Communications, Inc., is an Atlanta-based national cable television network that reaches 57.4 million U.S. households. The Weather Channel provides viewers with local, regional and national weather conditions, and other special features designed to meet its viewers interests, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The Weather Channel also operates the audiotext service "1-900-WEATHER", which provides callers with updated weather information for over 600 U.S. cities and 225 international cities, as well as slope conditions for over 500 ski areas worldwide.
If the benefits which 800 number portability has produced (as enumerated in the Petition) are any indication, The Weather Channel believes that there will be significant benefits if 900 number portability becomes a reality. Therefore, The Weather Channel respectfully requests that the Commission initiate a rulemaking to formally analyze the costs and benefits of adopting 900 number portability.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEATHER CHANNEL, INC.

[Signature]

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November 22, 1994