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FRN #0010-1553-98

August 26, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC

Attention: Wireline Competition Bureau

Consolidated Communications Companies Amended Application No. 2

RE: Consolidated Communications Companies' Base Tariff Filing of Tariff  
FCC No. 1 on August 18, 2004

This amended application for special permission requests waiver, after the fact, of the requirements of Sections 61.16 and 61.15(d) of Part 61 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules in connection with the submission of Consolidated Communications Companies (CCC), FRN #0010-1553-98, Tariff FCC No. 1 Base Tariff Filing on August 18, 2004.

Waiver of Section 61.16 is requested to allow the Base Tariff already filed at a time other than the mandated first 5 business days of the month, to remain in effect. First, the Base Tariff reflecting the July 1, 2004, "Annual Filing" rates was not filed in the first 5 business days of August 2004. After extensive negotiations, new rates were developed and finalized July 30, 2004, prior to the August Base Tariff being due. Thus, the Companies would have had to file a Base Tariff with rates that were even then being superseded by the July 30, 2004 tariff filing, which was scheduled to become effective August 14, 2004. Rather than have the confusion of a Base Tariff with one set of rates and a revised tariff filing with another completely different set of rates, the Companies chose to wait until after the final rates were effective on August 14, 2004, to file a Base Tariff. Second, the Companies filed the September Base Tariff earlier than the rules permitted, specifically on August 18, 2004, in an effort to minimize the above noted rate confusion. The Rules required the Companies to wait until the first 5 business days of September 2004 to file this Base Tariff. However, two major rate changes had occurred and the Companies attempted to expedite publication of these changes, contrary to the Commission's administrative mandates. Despite valid reasons for its actions, CCC concedes that it filed its Base Tariff at a

time not in accordance with the Commission's Rules and has no plans to repeat this action.

Waiver of Section 61.15(d) is requested to give Special Permission after-the-fact of the actual filing of the Base Tariff on August 18, 2004. The Consolidated Communications Companies believe that a grant of the requested waivers is in the public interest due to the extensive rate changes resulting from its Annual Filing. The early filing of the Base Tariff was intended to alleviate the rate confusion noted above.

All correspondence and inquiries in connection with this filing should be addressed to me at 300 Decker Drive, Irving, TX 75062, (214) 774-3270.

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