

# M ICHIGAN T ELECOMMUNICATIONS R EPORT™

A CLARK HILL PLC Publication, Roderick S. Coy\*, Editor

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**\* MR. COY IS A MEMBER  
IN THE CLARK HILL PLC LAW FIRM  
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**CLARK HILL PLC  
2455 WOODLAKE CIRCLE  
OKEMOS, MI 48864-5941  
(517) 381-9193  
<http://www.clarkhill.com>**

## FEATURES

### **PHONE COMPANIES CRITICIZE AMERITECH'S ATTEMPTS TO SQUASH COMPETITION**

On September 5, the Michigan Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications ("MiACT") issued the following press release:

#### **SBC PROFITS HIGH, MICHIGAN WHOLESALE RATES REASONABLE, MICHIGAN COMPETITIVE TELECOM COMPANIES, BUSINESS AND CONSUMER GROUPS PROVE**

Contrary to its statements to Michigan's news media, SBC's Michigan local phone operations are among the most profitable in the nation, a coalition of telecommunications companies and users demonstrated today.

The coalition said state and federal regulators and policymakers should not allow SBC to bully them squashing competition by either raising wholesale rates or shortcutting the established state and federal approval process for allowing phone monopolies into the long distance market.

"Michigan is on the cusp of entering a new age of telecommunications competition and expansion of these vital services," said Greg Boyd, executive director of the Michigan Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (MiACT), a coalition of telecommunications users and providers. "We can continue to follow the course laid out by the Michigan Public Service Commission and fulfill the dreams of those who see our state becoming a leader. Or we can backslide by allowing SBC to charge even more for access to the state's wholesale phone system and allowing it to use its own internal auditor to certify it is following state and federal mandates required before it can enter long distance."

Jerry Finefrock of Hamtramck-based LDMI, the largest phone company headquartered in Michigan, provided data from the Federal Communications Commission showing that SBC's Michigan operations are among the most profitable in the nation, earning \$81.35 per phone line last year, compared to only \$64.39 per line in the rest of the Ameritech region, and \$30.29 per line for Verizon nationally.

Finefrock also noted that SBC's own statements to investors show it had earnings before interest, taxes and adjustments of 42 percent on wire-line operations during the second quarter of 2002.

"SBC continues to earn monopoly profits in Michigan - which is not surprising given that it has been fined more than \$4 million in the last two years for interfering with competition," said Finefrock. "Our company's experience shows that SBC continues to block its customers from being able to easily leave its system and join other companies."

Craig Champagne of CMC Telecom Inc. said that his company and other small competitors would face serious financial strains if the Michigan Public Service Commission approves SBC's rate request filed Friday to raise wholesale rates from \$14.44 to \$34. "Given the heavy expenses needed to sign up a customer due to the failure of SBC to implement electronic switching systems mandated by law, we are barely breaking even today," said Champagne. "Adding another huge cost, and handing that money to SBC, will make our job all but impossible, and squash competition."

Rick Coy, attorney for the Michigan Competitive Local Exchange Carriers Association, noted that SBC is apparently violating the spirit - if not the letter - of the new federal law limiting internal auditor involvement in outside activities for their client companies. SBC has told the commission it will no longer wait for independent accounting firm KPMG to measure its compliance with federal law in developing operating systems needed to allow customers to easily leave its local phone systems. Instead, SBC is using its own internal auditor, Ernst & Young, to provide this vital function.

"KPMG has been doing a good job of documenting the failures of SBC's operating systems. Now SBC wants to hand the job to its own internal auditor - creating the obvious conflict of interest that Congress was trying to avoid when it passed the Corporate Responsibility and Accounting Reform Bill of 2002 this summer," said Coy.

Barry Cargill, vice president-government relations of the Small Business Association of Michigan, says his members are telling him they are just seeing the benefits of more competition. "Rates are just starting to come down. Service is starting to get a little better. And high-speed data access, one of small businesses' most important needs, is starting to be available at reasonable rates. We can't backslide now, or Michigan will fall behind competitor states in meeting the needs of business."

Cargill called on legislative leaders to use hearings planned this fall on structural separation to examine SBC's claims. "If SBC is not making money on their wholesale prices, it should be ready to separate that portion of their business from the retail business. That's what structural separation does, and it will reduce SBC's incentives to interfere with competition."

Rick Gamber, executive director of the Michigan Consumer Federation, said the Michigan Public Service Commission must continue to closely scrutinize SBC's request to enter long distance and its demands for higher rates.

"SBC's profits are fine. It's the pocketbooks of Michigan consumers that need to be protected. I certainly hope there is no rush to give SBC even higher profits at the expense of Michigan's families and the glimmer of competition we are starting to see."

MiACT is a coalition whose membership includes customer groups such as the Michigan Consumer Federation, the Small Business Association of Michigan and other business associations; long distance companies such as AT&T; alternative

competitive carriers; and both large and small companies seeking customer choice in telecommunications services. For more information, visit [www.miact.org](http://www.miact.org).

\* \* \*

### **NEW AREA CODE OVERLAY IN OAKLAND COUNTY** **EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 7 2002**

On Saturday, September 7, 2002 a new area code overlay will be implemented in Oakland County to relieve the 248 area code now overburdened with numbers for phones, faxes, pagers and other telecommunications equipment. New phone customers will be assigned the new 947 area code and all Oakland County residents will have to dial 10 digits, including the area code, to make local calls.

\* \* \*

### **MPSC TO HOLD STATEWIDE CONSUMER FORUMS ON** **TELEPHONE SERVICE**

The annual statewide Consumer Forums presented by the Michigan Public Service Commission ("MPSC") will be offered again this Fall for consumers to learn how they may be affected by changes that have occurred in the telephone and the natural gas and electric industries. Consumer options to choose an alternative local telephone, natural gas or electric service provider will be discussed and a MPSC Commissioner will be available to explain these changes, discuss other issues relating to utilities and listen to consumer questions and comments regarding regulated utility services in Michigan.

**The five remaining Consumer Forums are scheduled for:**

**~ St. Joseph ~**

**Monday, September 16, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.**  
City Hall -- Commission Chambers (2nd Floor)  
700 Broad Street

**~ Bay City ~**

**Thursday, September 19, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.**  
City Hall -- Commission Chambers (2nd Floor)  
301 Washington Avenue

**~ Port Huron ~**

**Tuesday, September 24, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.**  
Municipal Office Center -- Public Meeting Room  
100 McMorran Boulevard

**~ Big Rapids ~**

**Thursday, September 26, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.**  
City Hall - Commission Room  
226 North Michigan Avenue

**~ Detroit ~**

**Tuesday, October 1, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.**  
Butzel Family Center -- Assembly Hall  
7737 Kercheval Street

"Fundamental changes have occurred in the telephone, natural gas, and electric industries," said Chairman Laura Chappelle. "My colleagues and I welcome the opportunity to discuss these significant changes with area residents, businesses, and interested groups, and to hear their concerns regarding utility issues."

**PUBLIC ACTS OF 2002**

<b>Public Act #</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Bill Number and Sponsor</b>
PA 48	03/14/02	Provides for fee structures for use of public rights-of-way. Creates new act and repeals secs. 251, 252, 253 & 254 of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2251 et seq.). Tie bar with: Senate Bill 881 and Senate Bill 999.	Enrolled SB 880 Schwarz R - District 24
PA 49	03/14/02	Creates Michigan community communications development authority. Creates new act.	Enrolled SB 881 Stille R-District 32
PA 50	03/14/02	Provides for credit for the purchase and installation of certain telecommunications equipment. Amends 1905 PA 282 (MCL 207.1 - 207.21) by adding sec. 13B. Tie bar with: Senate Bill 880	Enrolled SB 999 Garcia R - District 26

**PENDING LEGISLATION**

The following is a list of active telecommunications bills that have been introduced during the current legislative session. Copies of bills and public acts referred to in this column may be obtained by contacting your state senator or representative, on the Michigan Legislature Web site, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>> or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169.

Senate Bill # Senator	Date Introduced	Description	Status
SB 280 Dunaskiss	03/07/01	Creates new act; provides for definition of public utility	To Senate Committee on Technology/Energy
SB 879 Schwarz	11/29/01	Provides amendments to certain telecommunications rates for customers of providers with more than 250,000 customers	To Senate Committee on Technology/Energy
SB 998 Sikkema	01/9/02	Clarifies end-user line charge	To Senate Committee on Technology/Energy
SB 1058 Sikkema	02/05/02	Amends the Michigan Antitrust Act by eliminating the exemption for telecommunication providers	To Senate Committee on Technology/Energy
SB 1330 Peters	05/15/02	Amends MTA to requires customer consent for the disclosure of certain information	To Senate Committee on Technology/Energy

House Bill # Representative	Date Introduced	Description	Status
HB 4219 Mortimer	02/13/01	Creates new Cellular Tower Attachment Act to require approval of MPSC regarding construction of cellular communication towers Tie bar with HB 4220	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 4220 Mortimer	02/13/01	Amends MTA to establish MPSC authority regarding proposed Cellular Tower Attachment Act. Tie Bar with HB 4219	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 4307 Anderson	02/20/01	Amends MTA by adding section 312c to require notification of long-distance charges to a customer using a pay telephone	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 4764 Neumann	05/15/01	Amends MTA to provide for the structural separation of local exchange companies with more than 250,000 users	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 4991 Kuipers	06/26/01	Provides authority to local school board to regulate or allow student use of cellular phones and pagers in school	6/27/02 passed Senate (34-0) and given immediate effect; To House
HB 5460 Shulman	11/28/01	Amends MTA by clarifying end-user line charges	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 5527 Kolb	12/13/01	Prohibits employer monitoring of employee communications unless the employer establishes an employee monitoring policy and discloses that policy to employees	To House Committee on Employment Relations
HB 5886 Bishop	04/11/02	Amends MTA to allow transfer of cellular telephone number with change of service	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 5926 Woronchak	04/17/02	Amends MTA by eliminating fees for unlisted telephone numbers for persons 65 years of age and over	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 6092 Vander Roest	05/21/02	Amends sec. 305 of 1991 PA 179 by prohibiting the disclosure of certain account information without written consent from the customer	To House Committee on Energy/Technology
HB 6097 Allen	5/21/02	Amends sec. 304 of 1991 PA 179 by providing requirement for companies under 250,000 customers to make adjacent calling areas a local call	To House Committee on Energy/Technology

House Bill # Representative	Date Introduced	Description	Status
HB 6164 Shulman	06/04/02	Amends sec. 7 of 1964 PA 183 by providing for the issuance of bonds for equipment associated with telecommunications on the campuses of Michigan institutions of higher education with lease options back to the institutions and the state	To House Committee on Energy/Technology

### ORDERS

*No Orders have been issued by the MPSC since August 20, 2002. The next MPSC regular meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2002*

\* \* \*

### NOTICES OF HEARING

**Case No. U-13441**  
**TelNet Inc v Verizon North Inc and**  
**Contel of the South Inc, d/b/a Verizon North Systems**  
**(reciprocal compensation dispute)**

On July 17, 2002 TelNet Worldwide, Inc filed a formal complaint alleging that Verizon North, Inc., and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems failed to pay reciprocal compensation as specified in their Interconnection Agreement and requesting mediation. A prehearing conference in this matter is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on September 17, 2002.

**Case No. U-13485**  
**OnePoint Communications-Illinois LLC**  
**(license)**

The July 19, 2002 application of OnePoint Communications-Illinois, LLC for a license to provide telecommunications services in the exchange areas presently served by Ameritech Michigan, Verizon North, Inc. and Verizon North Systems is set for an evidentiary hearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 17, 2002. Interventions are due on or before August 29, 2002.

**Case No. U-13501**  
**Ameritech Michigan**  
**(revenue sharing dispute)**

The August 1, 2002 application of Ameritech Michigan for resolution of a dispute regarding the revenue sharing provisions of contracts entered into between Ameritech Michigan

and various telecommunications providers is set for a prehearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 16, 2002. Interventions are due on or before September 9, 2002.

\* \* \*

### **PSC HEARINGS SCHEDULE**

Note: *Unless indicated otherwise, hearings are held in the offices of the Commission, 6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7, Lansing.*

#### **Hearings Scheduled for Last Week (September 3-6, 2002)**

September 4, 2002, 9:00 a.m.  
Case No. U-13488/evidentiary hearing  
Kuehne & Nagel v Ameritech (quality of service)

#### **Hearings Scheduled for This Week (September 9-13, 2002)**

September 12, 2002, 9:00 a.m.  
Case No. U-13475  
ACN Communications (license)

#### **Future Hearings Scheduled**

September 16, 2002, 9:00 a.m. Case No. U-13501/prehearing Ameritech Michigan (revenue sharing dispute)	September 17, 2002, 9:00 a.m. Case No. U-13485/evidentiary hearing One Point Communications-Illinois (license)
September 17, 2002, 9:00 a.m. Case No. U-13441/prehearing TelNet v Verizon (reciprocal compensation dispute)	

### **APPLICATIONS AND COMPLAINTS**

#### **Case No. U-12709**

#### **Michigan's Utility & Company Payment Systems and Ameritech Michigan (interconnection agreement)**

On September 6, 2002 Michigan's Utility & Company Payment Systems and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") for approval of the First and Second Amendments to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on December 4, 2000 ("Agreement"). The applicants state that the First Amendment executed as of March 29, 2001 incorporates into the Agreement the rates approved by the Commission in Case No. U-11831, and that the Second Amendment executed as of August 26, 2002 "extends the term date for one year to November 27, 2003, replaces the Mutual Compensation, Confidentiality, and the Intervening Law section in the GT&C, replaces the

Reciprocal Compensation appendix with the new Reciprocal Compensation and the related pricing and update Section 8: Sub-Loop Elements of the UNE Appendix into the Agreement.”

**Case No. U-12798**

**Focal Communications Corp of Michigan and Ameritech Michigan  
(interconnection agreement)**

On September 5, 2002 Focal Communications Corporation of Michigan and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the Fourth Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on March 29, 2001 (“Agreement”). The application states that the Fourth Amendment executed as of August 22, 2002 incorporates into the Agreement new rates, prices and charges set by the Commission pursuant to Case No. U-11831.

**Case No. U-12954**

**Buckeye TeleSystem Inc and Ameritech Michigan  
(interconnection agreement)**

On September 3, 2002 Buckeye TeleSystem, Inc. and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the First Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on July 11, 2001 (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the First Amendment executed as of July 22, 2002 incorporates into the Agreement new rates, prices and charges set by the Commission pursuant to Case Nos. U-11831 and U-12696.

**Case No. U-12988**

**ACD Telecom Inc and Ameritech Michigan  
(interconnection agreement)**

On August 27, 2002 ACD Telecom, Inc. and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of the first and Second Amendments to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on September 7, 2001 (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the First Amendment fully executed as of August 15, 2002 incorporates into the Agreement rates and charges approved by the Commission in Case Nos. U-11831 and U-12696, and that the Second Amendment executed as of August 21, 2002 incorporates into the Agreement the Appendix Performance Measurements.

**Case No. U-13032**

**B & S Telecom Inc and Ameritech Michigan  
(interconnection agreement)**

On September 9, 2002 B & S Telecom, Inc. and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the Third Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on September 7 2001 (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the Third Amendment, executed as of February 25, 2002, adds Appendix Directory Assistance and Appendix Operator Services, including the associated pricing schedules, to the Agreement.

**Case No. U-13033**  
**Superior Technologies Inc and Ameritech Michigan**  
**(interconnection agreement)**

On August 29, 2002 Superior Technologies, Inc. and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the First Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on August 16, 2001 (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the First Amendment executed as of August 9, 2002 incorporates into the Agreement new rates, prices and charges set by the Commission pursuant to Case Nos. U-11831 and U-12696.

**Case No. U-13211**  
**Ameritech Advanced Data Services of Michigan and Ameritech Michigan**  
**(interconnection agreement)**

On September 3, 2002 Ameritech Advanced Data Services of Michigan and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement approved by the Commission on February 1, 2002 (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the Amendment executed as of August 26, 2002 adds into the Agreement the Yellow Zone Processing (YZP).

**Case No. U-13518**  
**SBC Ameritech**  
**(cost studies )**

On August 30, 2002 SBC Ameritech Michigan filed an application seeking approval of updated and revised cost studies related to unbundled network elements and other service offerings. In particular, SBC Ameritech seeks to update its cost study and rates for recurring and non-recurring rate elements such as unbundled loops, unbundled subloops, unbundled local switching (“ULS”), unbundled local switching with shared transport (“ULS-ST”), unbundled dedicated transport (“UDT”), UNE-Platform (“UNE-P”) and UNE nonrecurring charges (“NRCs”), Loop Qualification, unbundled Operator Services/Directory Assistance (OS/DA), unbundled SS7 signaling, unbundled database access, unbundled dark fiber, customized routing, cross-connects, and transiting. SBC Ameritech claims a need for a new cost study because of changes in fill factors, depreciation lives, and cost of money. The new study also utilizes new cost models and adjusted common cost factors. SBC Ameritech has specifically excluded SBC collocation and switched and special access services from these cost studies.

SBC Ameritech contends that the proposed increase in costs is justified because “below-cost UNE prices, combined with exploding CLEC demand for UNEs through the UNE-P, imposes an unreasonable financial burden on SBC.” SBC Ameritech further claims that “SBC’s ability to maintain jobs in this state and make necessary investments in its network to provide high quality service to consumers and to other providers is harmed unless SBC can recover, at the very least, the cost to provide that service.”

Confidential portions of testimony and exhibits, including the cost studies, will be made available to parties following the entry of a protective order by the Administrative Law Judge assigned to this proceeding. SBC Ameritech has requested that this proceeding be handled on an expedited basis.

**Case No. U-13520**  
**Comcast Telecommunications of Michigan LLC**  
**(amended license)**

On August 28, 2002 Comcast Telecommunications of Michigan, LLC (“Comcast”) applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval to amend the geographic service area of its existing license to provide basic local exchange service. Comcast states that its network facility service areas, as authorized by the Commission, are defined by the municipal or township boundaries of Comcast’s cable television franchises. Comcast states that it is currently licensed to provide service in 51 communities, and proposes to add the remaining 192 contiguous municipalities for which Comcast currently has cable television franchises. Further, Comcast states that although its service territories are defined by municipal and township boundaries, the local calling areas are based on the incumbent local exchange carrier’s existing zone or exchange boundaries.

**Case No. U-13521**  
**Talk Unlimited Now Inc and Verizon North Inc and**  
**Contel of the South Inc, d/b/a Verizon North Systems**  
**(interconnection agreement)**

On August 27, 2002 Talk Unlimited Now, Inc. and Verizon North, Inc and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for approval of their Interconnection Agreement (“Agreement”). The applicants state that the Agreement will remain in effect until June 14, 2004.

**Case No. U-13525**  
**Net Express Inc, d/b/a Advent Telecom**  
**(license)**

On September 4, 2002 Net Express, Inc., d/b/a Advent Telecom, (“Advent Telecom”) filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission for a license to provide basic local exchange service, on both a reseller and facilities-based basis, in the zone and exchange areas in which Verizon North Incorporated, Verizon North Systems, and Ameritech Michigan are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The application indicates that Net Express, Inc. is a Michigan corporation and is headquartered in Clinton Township, Michigan.

**Case No. U-13526**  
**TelNet Worldwide Inc, Iserv Company Inc, Fiskars Inc, and Robert Tatay v**  
**SBC Ameritech Michigan**  
**(interconnection dispute)**

On September 5, 2002 TelNet Worldwide, Inc. (“TelNet”), a competitive local exchange carrier, Iserv Company, Inc. (“Iserv”), an Internet Service Provider, Fiskars, Inc. (“Fiskars”), a general contractor, and Robert Tatay (“Tatay”), a SBC Ameritech Michigan residential subscriber, (collectively, “Complainants”) filed a formal complaint and request for emergency relief with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) against SBC Ameritech Michigan. Complainants allege that Ameritech has engaged in anti-competitive actions designed to impede TelNet’s ability to provide services to end users, to penalize Iserv for switching and taking service from TelNet, a competitor to Ameritech. Complainants further state that

Ameritech “has intentionally taken action in its Niles exchange calls to block tariffed local calls from Ameritech’s own customers (and others) in Ameritech’s South Bend exchange, which action has resulted in Fiskars, an Ameritech customer, being deprived of the ability to place calls to certain areas within Ameritech’s tariffed local calling area.” Complainants argue that Ameritech’s actions violate Ameritech’s local calling tariff, the Commission-approved interconnection agreement between TelNet and Ameritech, various provisions of the Michigan Telecommunications Act, and Commission orders. Complainants seek a cease and desist order against Ameritech, an order granting a request for emergency relief, and economic damages.

**Case No. U-13530**  
**Budget Phone Inc and Ameritech Michigan**  
**(interconnection agreement)**

On September 9, 2002 Budget Phone, Inc. and Ameritech Michigan jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of their multi-state Interconnection Agreement executed as of August 27, 2002.

**Case No. U-13532**  
**Winstar Communications LLC and Verizon North Inc and**  
**Contel of the South Inc, /d/b/a Verizon North Systems**  
**(interconnection agreement)**

On September 10, 2002 Winstar Communications, LLC (“Winstar”) and Verizon North, Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of their Interconnection Agreement. The applicants state that Winstar asked to adopt the terms of the interconnection agreement between Verizon Maryland Inc. and Business Telecom, Inc., previously approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission on November 28, 2001

**Case No. U-13533**  
**Waldron Telephone Co**  
**(local calling area and adjusted rates)**

On September 10, 2002 Waldron Telephone Company (“Waldron”) applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval to expand its local calling area to include the Hudson Exchange, currently served by Verizon North, Inc. and the Morenci Exchange, currently served by Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems. Waldron also notes that it will need to increase its rates if the Commission approves the expansion. Waldron proposes to implement an increase of \$3.17 to its monthly residential rates, and \$3.80 to its monthly business rates.

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## **PSC NOTICES OF OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT**

### **Case No. U-13482 Deerfield Farmers' Telephone Co (amended license)**

On July 16, 2002 Deerfield Farmers' Telephone Company ("Deerfield Farmers") filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") to expand the geographic area of its basic local exchange service license to include: Adrian, Blissfield, Britton, Clinton, Dundee, Hudson, Ida and Tecumseh, now served by Verizon North Inc., and Lambertville and Morenci, now served by Verizon North Systems. The Commission directs Deerfield Farmers' to issue notice of its request by August 19, 2002. Written and electronic comments are due on or before September 19, 2002.

### **Case No. U-13489 Ace Telephone Company of Michigan Inc (local calling area and rate adjustment)**

On July 23, 2002 Ace Telephone Company of Michigan, Inc. ("Ace") filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") for authority to offer expanded local calling and to adjust rates for basic local exchange services. The Commission directs Ace to issue a notice of opportunity to comment. Written and electronic comments are due on or before September 24, 2002.

### **Case No. U-13504 Drenthe Telephone Co (amended license)**

On August 19, 2002 Drenthe Telephone Company ("Drenthe") filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") to expand the geographic area of its basic local exchange service license to include: the Holland, Zeeland, Hudsonville and Jamestown exchanges, now served by Ameritech Michigan; the Hamilton exchange, now served by Verizon North Inc.; and the Borculo exchange, now served by CenturyTel. The Commission directs Drenthe to issue a notice of opportunity to comment by September 18, 2002. Written and electronic comments are due on or before October 16, 2002.

### **Case No. U-13515 Bloomingdale Telephone Company (local calling area and adjusted rates)**

On August 23, 2002 Bloomingdale Telephone Company ("Bloomingdale") filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") to offer expanded local calling to the Gobles, Paw Paw, Bangor, Grand Junction, Pullman and Allegan exchanges, and to adjust rates for basic local exchange services. The Commission directs Bloomingdale to issue notice of its request. Written and electronic comments may be filed with the Commission on or before October 22, 2002.

**Case No. U-13520**  
**Comcast Telecommunications of Michigan LLC**  
**(amended license)**

On August 28, 2002 Comcast Telecommunications of Michigan, LLC (“Comcast”) filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) to expand the geographic area of its basic local exchange service license to include the remaining contiguous municipalities for which Comcast currently has cable television franchises. The Commission directs Comcast to issue notice of its request by September 27, 2002. Written and electronic comments may be filed with the Commission on or before October 28, 2002.

**SCHEDULED MPSC MEETINGS**

<b>September 16, 2002</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
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