



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News media information 202 / 418-0500
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

DA 98-1384
Released: July 13, 1998

AFFINITY CORPORATION PETITION FOR PARTIAL WAIVER

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 96-45

Comment Date: July 27, 1998
Reply Comment Date: August 3, 1998

In the May 8, 1997 *Universal Service Report and Order*, the Commission directed all interstate telecommunications carriers, payphone providers, and others which provide interstate telecommunications service for a fee to contribute to the Universal Service Funds.¹ Contributions to the universal service support mechanisms must be based in part on contributors' end-user telecommunications revenues from the previous year.² Affinity Corporation (Affinity) is an interstate telecommunications carrier that resells long distance services. Affinity has experienced a reduction in its end-user revenues. As a result, on July 8, 1998, Affinity filed a petition seeking authority to calculate its contribution on the basis of its current revenues.

Parties wishing to comment on Affinity's Petition for Partial Waiver are directed to file the comments on or before **July 27, 1998**, to file reply comments on or before **August 3, 1998**, in accordance with section 1.415 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.415, and the procedures set forth below.

Procedure for Filing

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Report and Order*, 12 FCC Rcd 8776, 9173 at ¶ 777 (rel. May 8, 1997) (*Report and Order*), consolidated appeals pending sub nom. *Texas Office of Public Utility Counsel v. FCC*, Civ. No. 97-60421 (5th Cir.); 47 C.F.R. § 54.703.

² 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.709, 54.711.

All filings should reference: Affinity Corporation Petition for Partial Waiver, CC Docket No. 96-45, and should include the DA number shown on this Public Notice. Interested parties must file an original and six copies of their comments with the Office of Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Room 222, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Parties should send three copies of their comments to Sheryl Todd, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 2100 M. St, N.W., 8th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20554. Parties should send one copy of their comments to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Copies of documents filed with the Commission, including the Petition for Partial Waiver, may be obtained from the International Transcription Service, 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 857-3800. Documents are also available for review and copying at the FCC Reference Center, Room 239, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Parties may also file comments electronically via the Internet at: <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Only one copy of an electronic submission must be submitted. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the lead docket number for this proceeding, which is Docket No. 96-45. Parties not submitting their comments via the Internet are also asked to submit their comments on diskette. Parties submitting diskettes should submit them to Sheryl Todd at the address noted above. Such a submission should be on a 3.5 inch diskette formatted in an IBM compatible format using WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows or compatible software. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter and should be submitted in "read only" mode. The diskette should be clearly labelled with the party's name, proceeding (including the lead docket number in this case, Docket No. 96-45, type of pleading (comment or reply comment), date of submission, and the name of the electronic file on the diskette. Each diskette should contain only one party's pleadings, preferably in a single electronic file. In addition, parties must send copies to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are permitted subject to disclosure.

For further information, contact Linda P. Armstrong, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or via e-mail: larmstro@fcc.gov.

-- Action by Accounting Policy Division --