

EXHIBIT A

From: MANSIR, TERRI D (SWBT) [tm2837@sbc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 7:14 PM
To: Tip Depp
Cc: JONES, LARRY E (Legal); JONES, ALBERTA (SWBT)
Subject: RE: TelCove Operations, Inc. - Multistate Negotiations

Thank you.

*Terri D. Mansir
Lead Negotiator
SBC/Industry Markets
311 S. Akard, Room 2030.02
Dallas, TX 75202
214-858-0708 (phone)
214-858-1245 (fax)*

-----Original Message-----

From: Tip Depp [mailto:Tip.Depp@telcove.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 6:05 PM
To: MANSIR, TERRI D (SWBT); Tip Depp
Cc: JONES, LARRY E (Legal); JONES, ALBERTA (SWBT)
Subject: RE: TelCove Operations, Inc. - Multistate Negotiations

Thanks, Terri. In light of your email, let's consider the negotiations to have commenced today, June 29.

-Tip

Edward T. ("Tip") Depp
Manager of Legal and Regulatory Affairs
TelCove
121 Champion Way
Canonsburg, PA 15317
voice: 724-743-9441
fax: 724-743-9791
tip.depp@telcove.com

-----Original Message-----

From: MANSIR, TERRI D (SWBT) [mailto:tm2837@sbc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 6:52 PM
To: Tip.Depp@telcove.com
Cc: JONES, LARRY E (Legal); JONES, ALBERTA (SWBT)
Subject: TelCove Operations, Inc. - Multistate Negotiations

Tip,

It was a pleasure to speak with you this afternoon and I do apologize if

Message

things were a bit confusing. Larry and I are having such a time trying to keep up with everything. Once I reviewed the timeline and the agreements that will be superceded, TelCove only has a T2A and A2A so you will not be governed by either the O2A or K2A renegotiations timeline. With this being said, we can agree to a new window. I propose that the window open today (June 29) with the arbitration window to run November 12 - December 6. Please let me know if you concur and I can prepare the letter. I have also asked Alberta Jones to contact you tomorrow to begin preparing a negotiation calendar. I would like to suggest a standard Tuesday afternoon meeting, perhaps 1:00 - 4:00 (CT) or something similar. As I explained, I need your redline proposals at least two weeks in advance for proper review and response prior to any scheduled session.

Once both of us have a better idea of the extent of these negotiations, I may need to pull in assistance or transition to another negotiator not associated with the O2A or K2A projects. I will do my best to avoid this situation but I trust I will have your understanding if this is necessary.

Thank you,

Terri D. Mansir
Lead Negotiator
SBC/Industry Markets
311 S. Akard, Room 2030.02
Dallas, TX 75202
214-858-0708 (phone)
214-858-1245 (fax)