## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

## PLAN OF MERGER OF KENTUCKY ALLTEL,)CASE NO.INC. AND ALLTEL KENTUCKY, INC.)2004-00302

## NOTICE OF RECUSAL

Prior to my appointment as Commissioner, I served as Vice President of External Affairs for ALLTEL Communications and its Kentucky affiliates. While I terminated all relationships with these entities, including any financial interests I may have previously held, before being appointed as Commissioner, an appearance of a conflict may exist if I immediately become involved in matters regarding these entities. Although I am unaware of any law that expressly prohibits my participation in or requires my abstention from this proceeding, I am of the opinion that my abstention will help to uphold the public confidence in the independence and integrity of the Commission. Therefore, I hereby recuse myself from any participation in the above-styled proceeding.

W. Gregory Coker Commissioner Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

DATED: <u>August 19, 2004</u>

cc: Parties of Record