SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP

The Washington Harbour 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20007-5116 Telephone (202) 424-7500 Facsimile (202) 424-7643 www.swidlaw.com

NEW YORK OFFICE THE CHRYSLER BUILDING 405 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10174 TELEPHONE (212) 973-0111 FACSIMILE (212) 891-9598

July 25, 2003

BY OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Thomas Dorman, Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40602-8294

JUL 2 7 2003

Re: Pro Forma Transfer of Control of Business Telecom, Inc. d/b/a BTI

Dear Mr. Dorman:

Business Telecom, Inc. d/b/a BTI ("BTI"), by its undersigned counsel hereby notifies the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") of a proposed <u>pro forma</u> transfer of control of BTI, a company authorized to provide telecommunications service in the State of Kentucky. As discussed below, BTI's indirect controlling shareholder Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P., along with WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P. and WCAS Information Partners, L.P., (collectively, "Welsh Carson"), will (i) make BTI and its parent holding company, BTI Telecom Corp. ("BTI Telecom"), subsidiaries of ITC^DeltaCom, Inc. ("ITC"), and (ii) will become a controlling shareholder of ITC. After consummation of the proposed transaction, Welsh Carson will continue to be BTI's indirect controlling shareholder.

BTI emphasizes that the transfer of control described herein is <u>pro forma</u> in nature because it will not result in a change in the ultimate controlling shareholder of BTI or otherwise change the operations of BTI. The proposed <u>pro forma</u> transaction will not involve an assignment of BTI's certification or a change in the day-to-day operations of the certificated company. In addition, there will be no change in the services offered to BTI's customers or the rates for BTI's regulated services. The transaction will be completely transparent to BTI's customers. Therefore, BTI submits that this transaction will serve the public interest.

Upon a review of Kentucky statutes and regulations, BTI understands that prior approval is not required to complete the transaction described herein. BTI therefore submits this Notification for the Commission's information and requests that it be retained by the Commission in the appropriate file. In the event the Commission determines that approval of the transaction is required, however, this letter should serve as a request for expedited approval.

BTI further states as follows:

The Parties

A. BTI

BTI is a privately held corporation organized pursuant to the laws of the State of North Carolina whose principal business is telecommunications. BTI is a wholly owned subsidiary of BTI Telecom, a privately held North Carolina holding company. BTI Telecom holds no regulatory licenses from this or any other regulatory commission.

BTI is a leading provider of integrated telecommunications services primarily in the southeastern United States. BTI is authorized to provide resold and facilities-based interexchange services and operator services throughout Kentucky. BTI was authorized to provide resold interexchange service in Case No. 92-367 on December 8, 1999, and subsequently expanded its authority to include resold and facilities-based local exchange and facilities-based interexchange and operator services through tariffs filed with the Commission.

In addition to the services provided to Kentucky consumers, BTI is authorized by the various state public service commissions to provide facilities-based and/or resold interexchange telecommunications services in the other 49 states and the District of Columbia, pursuant to certification, registration or tariff requirements, or on a deregulated basis. Additionally, BTI is currently authorized to provide competitive local exchange services in over 20 states.

B. Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe

Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P., WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P. and WCAS Information Partners, L.P. are limited partnerships organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with their principal place of business located at 320 Park Avenue, Suite 2500, New York, New York 10022. Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P., WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P., and WCAS Information Partners, L.P. are affiliates of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe ("WCAS"), a U.S.-based private equity firm founded in 1979. WCAS, through Welsh Carson and other affiliates, holds ownership interests in telecommunications companies, as well as other companies in the information services and healthcare industries. Although the WCAS affiliates are not commonly owned, they are managed and controlled by the same ultimate group of individuals.

In addition to its indirect controlling ownership of BTI, Welsh Carson is also the largest minority shareholder of ITC's common stock. ITC is a publicly-held Delaware corporation headquartered in West Point, Georgia. Through its subsidiaries, ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. and Interstate FiberNet, ITC provides voice and data telecommunications services on a retail basis to business and residential customers in the southern United States and regional telecommunications transmission services over its network on a wholesale basis to other telecommunications companies.

C. Designated Contacts

The designated contacts for questions concerning this Notice Letter are:

Catherine Wang W. Ray Rutngamlug Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20007 Tel.: (202) 424-7500 Fax: (202) 424-7643 Email: CWang@swidlaw.com <u>WRRutngamlug@swidlaw.com</u>

with a copy to:

Bruce R. Bullock Vice President/ Associate General Counsel Business Telecom, Inc. 4300 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC 27609 Tel.: (919) 863-7071 Fax: (919) 863-7098 Email: bruce.bullock@bti.com

and

Jonathan M. Rather General Partner and CFO Welsh, Carson, Anderson, & Stowe 320 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022 Tel: (212) 893-9570 Fax: (212) 893-9548 Email: jrather@welshcarson.com

Description of Proposed Pro Forma Transaction

BTI notifies the Commission of a proposed transaction that will result in a <u>pro forma</u> transfer of control of BTI. BTI's indirect controlling shareholder Welsh Carson proposes to make BTI and its parent holding company, BTI Telecom, subsidiaries of ITC holding company.¹

¹ Welsh Carson is currently the largest minority shareholder of ITC's common stock. As a part of the proposed transaction, Welsh Carson will acquire additional shares of ITC, and will thus become the controlling owner of ITC.

After consummation of the proposed transaction, BTI Telecom, BTI's parent, will be a wholly owned direct subsidiary of ITC.² Welsh Carson will continue to be BTI's indirect controlling shareholder (albeit through two intervening corporate entities).

A chart showing this transaction is attached hereto as Attachment A.

Consistent with the <u>pro forma</u> nature of this transaction, BTI does not propose to change the name under which BTI currently operates or any other aspect of the manner in which BTI currently offers service in the State of Kentucky. Immediately following the proposed transaction, BTI will continue to offer the services it currently offers with no change in the rates, terms, or conditions of service. Thus, the <u>pro forma</u> transfer of control will be transparent to BTI's customers in the State of Kentucky with respect to the services that they receive and therefore will not cause customer confusion or inconvenience.

Public Interest Considerations

The proposed transaction will serve the public interest by enabling BTI and its owners to improve the operational and cost efficiencies of BTI's business. The proposed transaction will also enhance BTI's operational flexibility. By adding BTI to the ITC group of carriers, BTI will be in a better position to offer a broader array of high quality customer services at affordable rates. The proposed transaction will thus serve the public interest by promoting competition and providing consumer benefits. The proposed transaction will directly benefit Kentucky consumers by facilitating the continued provision of innovative, high-quality telecommunications services to the public and thereby promoting competition in the Kentucky telecommunications service market.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, BTI respectfully submits that the public interest, convenience, and necessity would be furthered by the proposed transaction. Accordingly, BTI respectfully advises the Commission of its intent to consummate this transaction as soon as possible.

² Specifically, the <u>pro forma</u> transfer will be accomplished through a merger of a wholly owned direct subsidiary of ITC into BTI Telecom, with BTI Telecom surviving. Welsh Carson's debt and equity interests in BTI will be exchanged for or converted into, respectively, shares and warrants of ITC, and Welsh Carson and certain of its affiliates will invest approximately \$35 million in additional cash in ITC in exchange for preferred stock. Welsh Carson will become the controlling shareholder of ITC on a fully diluted basis.

An original and one (1) copies of this letter are enclosed for filing. Please date stamp the extra copy and return it in the self-addressed, postage paid envelope provided. If there are any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact W. Ray Rutngamlug at (202) 295-8363.

Respectfully submitted, Catherine Wang

W. Ray Rutngamlug

Counsel for Business Telecom, Inc. d/b/a BTI

Attachments

•

.

cc: Bruce R. Bullock Jonathan M. Rather

ATTACHMENT A

. .

Chart of Proposed Transaction

CHART OF PROPOSED TRANSACTION



.

•

VERIFICATIONS

. .

VERIFICATION

I, Jonathan M. Rather, state that I am Chief Financial Officer of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P., WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P. and WCAS Information Partners, L.P. (collectively, "Welsh Carson"); that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Welsh Carson; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 2 day of July, 2003.

Jonathan M. Rather Chief Financial Officer Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P. WCAS Information Partners, L.P.

VERIFICATION

I, Bruce R. Bullock, state that I am Vice President/Associate General Counsel of Business Telecom, Inc., a Party in the foregoing filing; that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Business Telecom, Inc.; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 23^{μ} day of June, 2003.

uce 7. Bullock

Bruce R. Bullock Vice President/Associate General Counsel Business Telecom, Inc.