BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

)

)

)

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company And Cincinnati Bell Long Distance For a Waiver of Certain of the Commission's Local Service Guidelines.

Case No. 99-1496-TP-UNC

**7 PH 3:

cЛ

AID SHILE ...

<u>COMMENTS OF</u> <u>TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY AND TSC COMMUNICATIONS, INC.</u>

TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY and TSC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. hereby submit their Comments in response to the Commission's Entry of January 11, 2000 herein.

Telephone Service Company is a local exchange telephone company that has served Wapakoneta and environs for more than 100 years. TSC Communications, Inc. is an affiliate of Telephone Service Company that has sought certification to provide competitive local exchange telephone service in Case No. 99-1295-TP-COI. TSC Communications, Inc. has not heretofore sought authority to provide local exchange service within the serving area of Telephone Service Company; likewise, other than through its affiliate TSC Communications, Inc., Telephone Service Company has not sought authority to provide local exchange service outside of the Wapakoneta and Cridersville Exchanges.

Neither Telephone Service Company nor TSC Communications, Inc. takes a position concerning the merits of the relief sought by Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company and Cincinnati Bell Long Distance in this case. Nonetheless, if the relief requested by the Joint Applicants is granted, Telephone Service Company and TSC Communications, Inc. submit that such a result should be applied equally to other carriers similarly situated, and that the Commission should

both invite and entertain such "me-too" applications. In the evolving competitive environment, Commission policy and remedy must remain uniform, and the relief sought in this case (as well as in Case No. 99-1544-TP-UNC and 99-1584-TP-AAC) should be considered and applied uniformly as well.

Respectfully submitted,

TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY TSC COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By: Thomas to doc Thomas E. Lodge (0015741)

Thompson Hine & Flory LLP One Columbus 10 West Broad Street, Suite 700 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3435 (614) 469-3200 Its Attorney