

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Petition of Stephen J. )  
Butcher, Sr. and Numerous Other Subscribers )  
of the Pataskala Exchange of United Telephone )  
Company of Ohio d/b/a/ Sprint, )

Complainants, )

v. )

Case No. 00-1151-TP-PEX

United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a )  
Sprint )  
and )  
ALLTEL Ohio, Inc., )

Respondents, )

Relative to a Request for Extended Area Service )  
Between the Pataskala Exchange of United )  
Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a/ Sprint and )  
the Newark Exchange of ALLTEL Ohio, Inc. )

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ANSWER OF  
ALLTEL OHIO, INC.

ALLTEL Ohio, Inc., ("ALLTEL"), for its answer to the Complaint states:

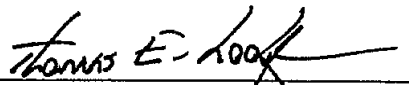
1. It is a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.
2. It owns and operates a number of exchanges within the State of Ohio, including the Newark Exchange.
3. The establishment of two-way, non-optional extended area service as requested in the Complaint would require ALLTEL to make additional investments and incur additional expenses.

4. The community of interest between ALLTEL's Newark Exchange and the Pataskala Exchange of United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a/ Sprint, should be determined under the Commission's Rules and in light of information to be developed herein.

WHEREFORE, ALLTEL Ohio, Inc. requests that this case be determined in accordance with the Commission's Rules and, alternatively, in the event a remedy is afforded to Complainants, that ALLTEL Ohio, Inc. be authorized to establish rates for such service as will fully compensate the Company for its additional costs.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLTEL Ohio, Inc.

By:   
Thomas E. Lodge (0015741)

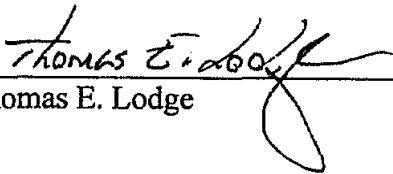
THOMPSON HINE & FLORY LLP  
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Columbus, Ohio 43215-3435  
(614) 469-3246

Its Attorney

Of Counsel:  
Stephen B. Rowell, Esq.  
ALLTEL Corporation  
One Allied Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2177  
(501) 905-8460

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing, has been served upon Stephen J. Butcher, Sr., 463 Washington Street, Pataskala, Ohio 43062, by ordinary U.S. mail delivery this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2000.

  
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Thomas E. Lodge