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Clerk's Office N.C. Utilities Commission

March 13, 2001

Ms. Geneva S. Thigpen Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325 P-100 SUB 137C

Dear Ms. Thigpen:

We are writing on behalf of the Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce in support of the proposed "distributed overlay" relief plan for the 336 area code. After reviewing the available options, our Board of Directors on February 28 unanimously voted to recommend this plan to the Commission. This plan provides the most cost effective and efficient means to address the present and future needs of our community and the Piedmont Triad area. The advantages of this plan far outweigh the disadvantages; therefore, the Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce strongly recommend your full acceptance of the 336 area code "distributed overlay" plan before you at this time.

ClertC. Stahl 7 Comm Wigfall 1 Comm

Sincerely,

William H. McMurray, III

William H. M. Muray III

Chair

James R. Simeon Executive Director