

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

PUBLIC NOTICE

Released: January 25, 1996

**PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED FOR
COMMENTS ON SNET'S PETITION FOR
DECLARATORY RULING THAT ANY INTERSTATE
NON-ACCESS SERVICE PROVIDED BY SNET
BE SUBJECT TO NON-DOMINANT CARRIER
REGULATION
CCBPol 96-03**

On January 17, 1996, Southern New England Telecommunications Corporation (SNET) filed a Petition for Declaratory Ruling seeking a ruling that SNET now may offer interstate communications service (other than interstate access service) as a non-dominant carrier through its local exchange company (LEC), rather than through a separate affiliate.

SNET states that the current policy, under which the company must offer interstate non-access service through an affiliate in order to obtain the benefits of non-dominant carrier regulation, imposes substantial costs on SNET. SNET states that federal and state regulatory policies implemented in the last decade substantially reduce the ability of SNET's LEC to leverage into the interstate non-access market any market power it has in the access market. SNET also claims that SNET's LEC now has no incentive to leverage such market power because of the characteristics of the interstate non-access market. SNET states that the Commission should find that the rule requiring an affiliate in order to be subject to non-dominant regulation no longer serves its intended purpose with respect to SNET.

Interested parties are asked to file comments on SNET's petition for declaratory ruling by **February 26, 1996**, and reply comments by **March 12, 1996**, with the Secretary, FCC, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. A copy should also be sent to Janice Myles, Common Carrier Bureau, FCC, Room 544, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554, and to the Commission's contractor for public service records duplication: ITS, Inc., 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037. **Parties filing comments in this non-docketed proceeding should include the Policy Division internal reference number, CCBPol 96-03 on their pleadings.** SNET's petition is available for inspection and copying in the Industry Analysis Division reference room, Common Carrier Bureau, Room 533, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Copies can also be obtained from ITS at (202) 857-3800.

We will continue to treat this proceeding as non-restricted for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules. See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. For further information contact Janice M. Myles, Policy and Program Planning Division of the Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-1577.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION