



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON D.C. 20554

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DA No. 98-1998

Report No. ARC-00001

Friday October 2, 1998

ACCOUNTING RATE CHANGE

RE: Applications Accepted for Filing

Pursuant to Section 64.1002 of the Commission's rules, the application listed below will be deemed granted 21 days after the date of this public notice and the applicant may implement the alternative settlement arrangement on the 28th day, unless the application is formally opposed within the meaning of Section 1.1202 of the Commission's Rules, or the Commission has informed the applicant in writing, within 21 days of the date of this public notice, that the application may not serve the public interest and that implementation of the proposed alternative settlement arrangement must await formal action on the petition. If objections or comments are filed, the applicant may file a response within 5 days of the time for filing an opposition has expired. In these instances, the application will be acted upon only by formal written order of the Commission, and the proposed alternative settlement arrangement may not be implemented except in accordance with such an order.

In accordance with Section 1.51(c) of the Commission's rules, an original and four copies of all pleadings must be filed with the Secretary at the above address. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be filed with (1) International Transcription Services (ITS), The Commission's duplicating contractor, at its office at 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 857-3800; and (2) the International Reference Room, International Bureau, Room 102, 2000 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings should refer to the file number listed below.

Copies of the application and any subsequently filed documents in this matter may be obtained from ITS, 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 857-3800. Such documents are also available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours in the International Reference Room, 2000 M. Street, N.W., Room 102, Washington, D.C. 20554.

ARC-PDR-19980915-00169

MASATEPE COMMUNICATIONS, U.S.A., L.L.C.

Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Masatepe Communications U.S.A. L.L. C. (Masatepe USA) has petitioned the Commission for a declaratory ruling that an alternative settlement arrangement negotiated with Masatepe Communications, S.A. (Masatepe SA) for service to and from Nicaragua is permitted under the framework adopted by the Commission. The proposed arrangement provides for an accounting rate arrangement covering all switched voice traffic, at a rate between \$0.74 and \$0.64 divided equally between the parties.

Masatepe USA stipulates that Nicaragua is a member of the World Trade Organization. It argues that competition is emerging in international telecommunications in Nicaragua, and that less than twenty-five percent of the traffic to or from Nicaragua would be affected.

For further information, contact Ken Stanley, Telecommunications Division, International Bureau, (202) 418-1486.