STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Caption of Case)

Complaint of Richard Ware Regarding Toll Charges Incurred When Dialing a Prefix from 272 to 390

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COVER SHEET

DOCKET NUMBER: 2007 - 274 - C

(Please type or print)

Submitted by: Margaret M. Fox

Address: McNair Law Firm, P. A.
P. O. Box 11390
Columbia, SC 29211

SC Bar Number: 65418
Telephone: 803-799-9800
Fax: 803-753-3219
Other:
Email: pfox@mcnair.net

NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely.

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

☐ **Emergency Relief demanded in petition**

☐ **Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda expeditiously**

☐ **Other:**

INDUSTRY (Check one)	NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)		
☐ Electric	☐ Affidavit	☒ Letter	☐ Request
☐ Electric/Gas	☐ Agreement	☐ Memorandum	☐ Request for Certification
☐ Electric/Telecommunications	☐ Answer	☐ Motion	☐ Request for Investigation
☐ Electric/Water	☐ Appellate Review	☐ Objection	☐ Resale Agreement
☐ Electric/Water/Telecom.	☐ Application	☐ Petition	☐ Resale Amendment
☐ Electric/Water/Sewer	☐ Brief	☐ Petition for Reconsideration	☐ Reservation Letter
☐ Gas	☐ Certificate	☐ Petition for Rulemaking	☒ Response
☐ Railroad	☐ Comments	☐ Petition for Rule to Show Cause	☐ Response to Discovery
☐ Sewer	☐ Complaint	☐ Petition to Intervene	☐ Return to Petition
☒ Telecommunications	☐ Consent Order	☐ Petition to Intervene Out of Time	☐ Stipulation
☐ Transportation	☐ Discovery	☐ Prefiled Testimony	☐ Subpoena
☐ Water	☐ Exhibit	☐ Promotion	☐ Tariff
☐ Water/Sewer	☐ Expedited Consideration	☐ Proposed Order	☐ Other:
☐ Administrative Matter	☐ Interconnection Agreement	☐ Protest	
☐ Other:	☐ Interconnection Amendment	☐ Publisher's Affidavit	
	☐ Late-Filed Exhibit	☐ Report	

Print Form Reset Form

MARGARET M. FOX
pfox@mcnair.net

THE TOWER AT 1301 GERVAIS
1301 GERVAIS STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201

MCNAIR LAW FIRM, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

www.mcnair.net

POST OFFICE BOX 11390
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29211
TELEPHONE (803)799-9800
FACSIMILE (803) 753-3219

October 17, 2007

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Complaint of Richard Ware Regarding Toll Charges
Incurred When Dialing a Prefix from 272 to 390
Docket No. 2007-274-C

Dear Mr. Terreni:

I am responding on behalf of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("HTC") and HTC Communications, Inc. ("HTCC") to the letter of Mr. Richard Ware dated September 12, 2007. To date, Commission Staff and the parties (HTC, HTCC, Verizon, and Mr. Ware) have had two conference calls, on August 13, 2007 and September 10, 2007, to discuss Mr. Ware's desires with regard to calling scopes in Myrtle Beach and the surrounding area. The parties have discussed various calling options and possible approaches to address Mr. Ware's request, but have not been able to come up with a workable solution that would benefit all of HTC and HTCC's customers.

As stated in Mr. Ware's September 12, 2007 letter, it is his desire to have toll-free calling (i.e., EAS) between and among the Wampee, North Myrtle Beach, and Myrtle Beach exchanges, with a charge added to all phones to cover the expanded dialing area.

Mr. Ware is a customer of both HTC and HTCC. He has homes in the Wampee exchange (served by HTC) and in the North Myrtle Beach exchange (served by HTCC). HTCC mirrors the calling scope of the incumbent carrier (Verizon) in the North Myrtle Beach exchange.

While HTC and HTCC understand that Mr. Ware would like to have toll-free calling throughout Myrtle Beach and surrounding areas, we believe an EAS study is not warranted in this case. HTC and HTCC have striven through the years to offer a variety of calling patterns and plans to suit the diverse needs of their customers.

HTC and HTCC believe the variety of calling plans and patterns they offer can be tailored in most cases to fit the needs of individual customers. For example, if someone makes very few calls from Wampee to Myrtle Beach, they can do that on a Measured Extended Area Service (MEAS) basis at a rate of 2.5 cents per minute, which would cost nothing if no calls were made, or 25 cents per

month for 10 minutes of calling. Another customer who has significant calling to Myrtle Beach may want to select one of HTC's package plans (e.g., $10.00 per month for 1000 minutes; $20.00 per month for 2200 minutes; or $30 per month for 3600 minutes). In this way, each customer in the Wampee exchange may choose the plan that suits him or her best.

HTC and HTCC respectfully submit that it would not be prudent to expend the resources necessary to undertake an EAS cost study in response to concerns expressed by a single customer. Typically, EAS studies are undertaken when there is evidence of widespread desire for expanded calling, strong communities of interest between the exchanges at issue, and willingness on the part of the affected customers to pay an additional charge for expanded calling. That does not appear to be the case here. In addition, there are a variety of calling options available to customers in this area that can be tailored to individual calling patterns and needs.

As they have in the past, HTC and HTCC will continue to be responsive to customer concerns, and will continue to offer innovative products and services to best serve the needs and desires of all of their customers.

Very truly yours,

Margaret M. Fox

MMF/rwm

cc: C. Lessie Hammonds, Esquire
Shealy Boland Reibold, Esquire
Mr. Richard Ware
Mr. Stan Bugner, Verizon
Steven W. Hamm, Esquire
Ms. Debby Brooks, Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Mr. Bill Rabon, Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.