



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

October 4, 1996

D.P.U. 96-78

Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion to seek comments regarding on the public interests aspects of the proposed merger between New England Telephone and Telegraph Company d/b/a NYNEX and Bell Atlantic Corporation.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

On July 3, 1996, New England Telephone and Telegraph Company d/b/a NYNEX ("NET" or "Company") filed with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") a notice of a Plan of Merger ("merger") between NYNEX Corporation ("NYNEX"), the parent company of NET, and Bell Atlantic Corporation ("Bell Atlantic"). The proposed merger will join the two corporations that currently serve customers from Maine to Virginia.

The Company requests confirmation from the Department that NET's filing satisfies any regulatory requirement within which the Company must comply to implement the merger in Massachusetts.

On August 26, 1996, the Department voted to open an investigation into the public interest aspects of the proposed merger, pursuant to the Department's general supervisory authority under G.L. c. 159 § 12.

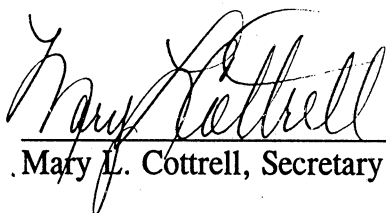
The Department will hold public hearings on the proposed merger to allow for public comment. Hearings will be held on Thursday, November 7, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. at Springfield City Hall, 360 Court Street, Springfield, Massachusetts; Wednesday, November 13, 1996, at 7:00 p.m., Lowell City Hall, 375 Merrimac Street, Lowell, Massachusetts; Wednesday, December 4, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. Taunton City Hall, Municipal Council Chambers, 15 Summer

Street, Taunton, Massachusetts; and Thursday, December 12, 1996 at 7:00 p.m., Gardner Auditorium, State House, Boston, Massachusetts.

Interested persons may submit written comments by November 6, 1996 to:

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
100 Cambridge Street, Room 1210
Boston, Massachusetts 02202

By Order of the Department,



Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary

Consent Communication #5

5-502

Communication was received from the Department of Public Utilities seeking comments regarding the public interest aspects of the proposed merger between New England Telephone and Telegraph Company doin business as NYNEX and Bell Atlantic Corporation. Hearings to be held for public comment from November 17, 1996 to December 12, 1996 at various sites throughouth the Commonwealth.

In City Council October 21, 1996

Referred to
City Manager