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Time Warner Telecom Calls for FCC to Eliminate Discriminatory Pricing of Pole Attachment Fees for Broadband Service Providers

--Pricing and practices surrounding pole attachment policies highlight inequities faced by broadband service providers--

--Broadband service providers charged up to 272% more than non-telecom carriers--

LITTLETON, Colo. – January 17, 2007 – Time Warner Telecom (NASDAQ:TWTC), a leading provider of voice and data networking solutions to businesses across the country, Tuesday filed a White Paper with the FCC calling for the elimination of discriminatory regulations governing fees charged for pole attachments for fiber optic cable that delivers vital broadband communications services to businesses.

Under current FCC pricing rules, utilities are charging “telecommunications carrier” broadband services providers, like Time Warner Telecom, up to 272 percent more than non-telecommunications carrier competitors to deploy fiber optic infrastructure. This occurs even though telecommunications carrier attachments impose no greater costs or burdens on pole owners than the attachments of non-telecommunications carriers that are subject to lower rates.

“COMPTEL applauds Time Warner Telecom for raising the issue of discriminatory pole attachment rates on behalf of the country’s broadband telecommunications service providers,” said Earl Comstock, president and CEO of COMPTEL. “The FCC needs to address the anticompetitive impacts of the current pole attachment fee policies. The current policies reduce competition and raise prices for consumers. COMPTEL strongly encourages the FCC to end these discriminatory practices.”

The unreasonable discrimination of pole attachment fees is flatly inconsistent with the requirement in the 1996 Telecommunication Act that utilities charge “non-discriminatory rates” for pole attachments. It is also inconsistent with the FCC’s stated policy that federal regulations should establish a “level playing field” for all providers of broadband services. In fact, as recently as last Wednesday, FCC Chairman Kevin Martin reiterated his view that policy makers need to ensure a “level playing field” for competitors in the provision of broadband services. Faced with the inequities caused by the current rules, customers of competitive service providers are being penalized because the cost of delivering service to them is directly affected by these fees. The longer the current rules remain in place, the more harm they do to the President’s policy objective of ensuring fair and equitable deployment of broadband services to consumers and businesses across the country.

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“Time Warner Telecom, along with broadband telecommunications carrier service providers across the country, are charged significantly higher pole attachment fees than competitors providing identical broadband services simply because they are classified as telecommunications carriers,” said Paul Jones, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Time Warner Telecom. “These rules are contrary to the notion of providing a ‘level playing field’ for all competitors. While not the original intent, these rules are forcing competitive broadband service providers to pay industry-wide tens of millions of dollars in fees that non-carrier providers do not. On behalf of all broadband service providers and their customers, we are calling on the FCC to exercise its authority under the 1996 Telecommunications Act to end the inequity among competitive broadband providers as a result of the discriminatory and anti-competitive rules currently in place.”

About Time Warner Telecom

Time Warner Telecom Inc., headquartered in Littleton, Colo., provides managed network services, specializing in Ethernet and transport data networking, Internet access, local and long distance voice, VoIP and security, to enterprise organizations and communications services companies throughout the U.S. As a leading provider of integrated and converged network solutions, Time Warner Telecom delivers customers overall economic value, quality, service, and improved business productivity. Please visit www.twtelecom.com for more information.

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