

STATE OF ALASKA

THE ALASKA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Before Commissioners:

Sam Cotten, Chairman  
Alyce A. Hanley  
Dwight D. Ornquist  
Tim Cook  
James M. Posey

In the Matter of the Joint Applica- )  
tion by BELL ATLANTIC CORPORATION ) U-98-157  
and GTE CORPORATION To Transfer a )  
Controlling Interest in GTE ALASKA ) ORDER NO. 1  
INCORPORATED, Holder of Certificate )  
of Public Convenience and Necessity )  
Nos. 3 and 569, and GTE CARD SER- )  
VICES, INC. d/b/a GTE LONG DISTANCE, )  
Holder of Certificate of Public )  
Convenience No. 504, to BELL ATLANTIC )  
CORPORATION )  

---

**ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION  
AND REQUIRING FILINGS**

BY THE COMMISSION:

Introduction

On October 2, 1998, Bell Atlantic Corporation (Bell Atlantic) and GTE Corporation (GTE) jointly filed an application to transfer control of GTE ALASKA INCORPORATED (GTE Alaska)<sup>1</sup> and

---

<sup>1</sup>GTE Alaska is the holder of Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience (Certificate) No. 3, authorizing it to furnish local exchange telecommunications services within the communities of Bethel, Nome, Barrow, McGrath, Haines, Seward, Moose Pass, Petersburg, Unalakleet, Wrangell, Hyder, and Metlakatla. GTE Alaska is also the holder of Certificate No. 569, authorizing it to furnish private pay telephone service.

GTE CARD SERVICES, INC. d/b/a GTE LONG DISTANCE (GTE Card Services)<sup>2</sup> to Bell Atlantic. The application states that Bell Atlantic will acquire GTE by purchasing all of the company's outstanding shares from the current GTE shareholders. In addition, the application states that since GTE Alaska and GTE Card Services are wholly owned by GTE, the acquisition of GTE by Bell Atlantic will result in a transfer of ultimate control of GTE Alaska and GTE Card Services to Bell Atlantic.

On November 6, 1998, notice of the application for approval of the transaction was issued to the public with a closing date of December 7, 1998, for submission of comments in support of, or in opposition to, the application. The Commission received no responses to the noticing of the application.

The Commission Staff (Staff) reviewed the filings in this proceeding and, on January 15, 1999, submitted its analysis and recommendation (Report) thereon. Staff's Report sets out in detail the history of the proceeding, the public noticing of the application, and Staff's findings and recommendations regarding disposition of the application. A copy of Staff's Report is attached to this Order as an Appendix.

---

<sup>2</sup>GTE Card Services is the holder of Certificate No. 504, authorizing it to furnish intrastate interexchange carrier services within Alaska. Part of the application includes a request for approval to change the name of GTE Card Services to GTE Communications Corporation.

Staff concluded that the acquisition of the controlling interest in GTE Alaska and GTE Card Services, resulting from the proposed transactions between Bell Atlantic and GTE, be approved. Staff stated that following the completion of the proposed transaction, there will be no changes in the rates, terms or conditions for the provision of any telecommunications service provided in Alaska. Staff recommended that the proposed acquisition by Bell Atlantic of the controlling interest in GTE Alaska and GTE Card Services be approved effective upon the date of the actual acquisition.

In addition, Staff recommended that the application by GTE Card Services for authority to amend Certificate No. 504 to change its name to GTE Communications Corporation be approved. Staff recommended that GTE Communications Corporation be required to file a revised tariff reflecting the new name within 30 days of approval of the name change.

#### Discussion

Based on its review of the record in this proceeding, the Commission concurs with Staff's recommendation to approve the application whereby Bell Atlantic will acquire controlling interest in GTE Alaska and GTE Card Services. In addition, the Commission concurs with Staff that the approval should be effective upon the date of the actual acquisition. The Commission also concurs with Staff's recommendation to approve the

application by GTE Card Services for authority to amend Certificate No. 504 by changing its name to GTE Communications Corporation, and accepts Staff's recommendation to require GTE Communications Corporation to file a tariff reflecting the new name approved by this Order. Staff's Report is incorporated herein by reference and adopted as the Commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

To reflect the acquisition and name change approved by this Order, GTE Communications Corporation is required to return Certificate No. 504, and a new parchment will be issued to GTE Communications Corporation in the near future.

**ORDER**

THE COMMISSION FURTHER ORDERS:

1. The application jointly filed by Bell Atlantic Corporation and GTE Corporation to acquire the controlling interest in GTE Alaska Incorporated and GTE Card Services, Inc., d/b/a GTE Long Distance is approved effective the date of acquisition.

2. Within 30 days of the date of the acquisition, Bell Atlantic Corporation shall file with the Commission written notification of that acquisition date.

3. The application by GTE Card Services, Inc. d/b/a GTE Long Distance for authority to change the name on Certificate of

Public Convenience and Necessity No. 504 to GTE Communications Corporation is approved.

4. By 4 p.m., May 30, 1999, GTE Communications Corporation shall file a tariff revision reflecting the name change approved by this Order..

5. By 4 p.m., May 30, 1999, GTE Communications Corporation shall return to the Commission the original parchment of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 504 held in the name of GTE Card Services, Inc. d/b/a GTE Long Distance.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE at Anchorage, Alaska, this 18th day of March, 1999.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION

( S E A L )