July 14, 2016

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary

Utilities and Transportation Commission

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW

P.O. Box 47250

Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Alliance Global Networks, LLC*

 Commission Staff’s Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties UT-160542

Dear Mr. King:

On June 13, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a $400 Penalty Assessment in Docket UT-160542 against Alliance Global Networks, LLC for four violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-120-382), which requires telecommunications companies to furnish annual reports, supporting documentation and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday.

On June 30, 2016, Alliance Global Networks, LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Alliance Global Networks, LLC does not dispute the violation occurred. The company states, “…Nationwide Regulatory Compliance mailed the report and payment on April 25, 2016. The check for payment of $150 cleared our bank on April 29, 2016. Nationwide Regulatory Compliance was contacted for the Company Financial Information on May 6, 2016, which they supplied via email immediately.”

It is the company’s responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated telecommunications companies. The instructions page along with Schedule 1, Part A informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, provide the supporting financial reporting documents and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

On April 28, 2016, Alliance Global Networks, LLC filed a 2015 annual report and paid the regulatory fee of $150. The company’s balance sheet and income statement was not provided as required by WAC 480-120-382. Commission staff called Nationwide Regulatory Compliance on May 3 and left a voice mail regarding the missing balance sheet and income statement. Nationwide Regulatory Compliance provided the required documents via email on May 6.

Alliance Global Networks, LLC has been active since 2008 and has never had a violation of WAC 480-120-382. In consideration of Alliance Global Networks, LLC’s long running compliance and prompt response to staff, it is staff’s recommendation that the penalty be waived.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Sean Bennett, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or sbennett@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Sondra Walsh, Director

Administrative Services