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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FCC COMMISSIONER KEVIN J. MARTIN PRAISES INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON LOCAL PHONE COMPETITION

"I am encouraged by the recent initiatives of both incumbent phone companies and competitive carriers designed to encourage commercially negotiated agreements. I strongly support the pro-active efforts of the companies that have proposed a mediated process as well as those that have outlined suggested terms and conditions to permit competitors access to the incumbent's network at reasonable rates. All affected companies should take their lead and move forward to negotiate agreements that would provide certainty to the parties while preserving the benefits of competition for consumers."