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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).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 14, 2004

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER KATHLEEN Q. ABERNATHY ON DEVELOPMENT OF NEW LOCAL COMPETITION RULES

"I am pleased that we are turning a corner and putting litigation behind us by commencing a rulemaking in response to the D.C. Circuit's *USTA II* decision. In fact, I have argued over the last few months that writing new rules consistent with the Court's directives is essential to bringing certainty to the market and ensuring appropriate investment incentives. I also join my colleagues in encouraging all parties to continue marketplace negotiations during the pendency of this proceeding."