

From: Mike Anderson
Sent: December 19, 2006
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

To whom it may concern. I wanted to express my views on the issue of local forbearance. I support the Governments position on deregulating local competition once there is the presence of local competitive facilities. I work for SaskTel. SaskTel is competing against Shaw Communications and soon will be competing against Access Communications in addition to the access independent VOIP only competitors. SaskTel is less than half the size of Shaw. SaskTel received no regulatory protection when it entered the video over DSL business competing against Shaw, and in fact had numerous anti competitive encounters with Shaw, one of which was escalated to the CRTC for intervention. SaskTel did not complain nor expect any regulatory protection. SaskTel went into competition expecting to have to compete for every customer it won against a well entrenched competitor whom some would argue still has a dominant position in the cable industry (certainly not the 25% market share loss the CRTC thinks is reasonable for the Telco incumbents). From my perspective, technology convergence has set a path for the two industries to collide. Both industries have strong incumbents and both will have strong competitive upstarts. There is no need for artificial competition. As SaskTel (small compared to Shaw) has already demonstrated, if a competitor has a strong value proposition and provides good service it will do well against a larger competitor. There are no real competitive barriers to entry with the advent of VOIP, the cableco's have strong networks, some would argue better than the telco's, they do not need access to bottleneck facilities from the telcos, Local Number Portability is in place with rigid processes to ensure no unfair competitive practices. Finally, regulated competition will not provide the ultimate in consumer choice and competitive pricing. Critics of this position suggest that without regulation the incumbents will drive the competitors out of business with predatory pricing and then pricing will rise again leaving the consumers worst off. I would suggest that regulated competition will only defer rigorous competition and potentially allow the competitors to enjoy artificial success/margins and result in consumers not fully enjoying the benefits of competition until the regulatory shackles are undone. At some point competition will be fierce, regulated or not. The players are for the most part all large players who should be allowed to compete.

Mike Anderson

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From: Pam Anderson
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:48 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

As part of your efforts to reform the CRTC's regulation of telecommunications, I support your government's proposal to re-write the Forebearance decision.

Pam Anderson - Administrative Support
SaskTel Business Development

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From: Brent Appel
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:28 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC local telephone service deregulation

I encourage your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

Brent P. Appel, CMA
Systems Analyst, SaskTel

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From: Darlene Barton
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:50 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

The CRTC has created an uneven playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Respectfully,
Darlene Barton

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From: Jordan Bean
Sent: January 15, 2007 9:41 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Level the playing field

I do support the decision to overturn the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Committee's forbearance ruling against ILEC's like SaskTel. A level playing field for entertainment / communications providers is something the people of Saskatchewan feel is necessary. Why handicap any one company or place limitations on the deals that said company is willing to provide it's customers? What is important is that the company lives up to the deal it provides fairly, completely and to the utmost satisfaction of its clientel. Competition is progressive in the residential consumer marketplace because shoppers' choices impact providers attempts to "win" the right and responsibility to provide their service over the "other guys". Regulating one company strictly while allowing free reign to their competitor doesn't encourage consumers to shop competitively. In this case the regulated company is lead to seem reactionary and overpriced, while the competitor with free reign employs short lived "bargains" and "innovations" that are not intended to serve and please the recipient 100% but only as much as necessary while headway is gained with concern to market-share. When multiple providers working at full capacity are both allowed to offer premium services at charges minimally above cost then the consumer has truly seen the benefit of competition in the marketplace. Thank you.

Jordan Bean
Customer Service and Sales Representative
SaskTel Consumer InBound Sales

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From: Keith Bent
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:36 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision 2006-15

I support the governments proposals to change the rules for the deregulation of local telephone service. The regulation of the established telephone companies has served it's intended purpose and it's time to let consumers and the market place decide. The CRTC does not have to continue to regulate small companies like SaskTel so that very large global companies can some how overcome this "huge barrier" to the Saskatchewan market place. They aren't fooling anyone except maybe the CRTC.

The small telephone companies have invested a lot in terms of network, employment and stimulation of the local economy. By continually tying there hands the CRTC will eventually destroy the incumbents and all that has been gained over the last 100 years. Once local access, especially in the small sparsely populate areas of Canada is priced beyond what is affordable, then everything from the safety of people and the economic viability of these communities will be lost.

The CRTC has a roll in the Canadian Telecommunication Industry. I am just not sure there focus is always in the best interest of the majority of local consumers. The AT&T's and Rogers of the world can take care of themselves in the market place. They can buy and sell companies like SaskTel and only answer to there shareholders. Every edge the CRTC gives them just goes into the pockets of those shares holders.

Competition is great...and so is affordable local telephone service in a sparsely populated province like Saskatchewan.

Keith Bent

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From: Jennifer Berg
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:30 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Re: Canada Gazette Notice

This email is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Jennifer Berg, B.Comm
Marketing Analyst
SaskTel - Carrier Relations

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From: Stephen Blayone
Sent: January 15, 2007 11:23 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

To whom it may concern,

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

It is very important that all companies are even playing field and is especially true when smaller incumbents are going up against competitors that are many times their size.

Thank you for listening,

Stephen Blayone
Regina, Saskatchewan

From: Josephine Brcic
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:20 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Decision 2006-15

To whom it may concern,

I am sending you this e-mail as part of the public consultation process with respect to the federal government's proposal to re-write the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation.

I fully support the proposals.

Regards,
Josephine Brcic

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From: Jeff Bresciani
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:31 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Jeff Bresciani
Regina, Sask.

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From: Sue Britton
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:58 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

I think that the marketplace will better serve consumer and businesses if your proposal to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service becomes law.

I support your government's proposal to rewrite the forbearance decision.

Sue Britton

From: Tim Britton
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service deregulation

I think that the marketplace will better serve consumer and businesses if your proposal to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service becomes law.

I support your government's proposal to rewrite the forbearance decision.

Tim Britton

From: Suzanne Brown
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:31 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

I am sending you this email to advise you that I fully support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

Suzanne Brown
Regina, Sask.

From: Peter Bruce
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposed Order in Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

I would like to express my support for the Government of Canada's decision to overturn the CRTC's decision concerning forbearance of local telephone service. I believe that the CRTC's approach to creating a competitive communications industry in Canada through state-engineered marketshare loss is unfair to consumers and firms in the communications industry.

Peter Bruce
Regina, SK

From: Heather Burns
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:54 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide.

The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Sincerely,

Heather Burns

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From: Cindy Butterfield
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service for Saskatchewan

I support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision on local telephone service. It is important that SaskTel is able to compete on a level playing field with their competitors.
Cindy Butterfield

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From: Collin Carbno
Sent: December 19, 2006
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Telecom Regulation - Canada Gazette, Part I

Dear Sir and Madam,

I completely support the removal of market regulation from Telecommunications industry. The businesses of video/cable/television, cellular phones (Video IPOD), internet services (Email, Voice Mail, web pages, browsing, etc.) and telephone service are merging. In one way or another all of this technology is running on world wide internet networks.

To select one piece of this technology and to attempt to regulate it is completely illogical and harmful to the consumer. A single hand held device can already act as a digital camera, an internet Email port, a text messaging port, a voice mail port, a video receiver, a video transmitter and a cell phone. The regulatory requirements themselves add considerable cost to the telecoms in meeting and dealing with the regulatory issues. With IP phones and widespread availability of high speed internet, world wide telephone service at incredibly low rates compared to past values has already happened. My brother in law was helping an aid agency in Nepal during the year, and phoned home nightly via satellite and internet for the grand cost of 3 cents per minute. It is important to understand that this is from a third world country that has a rather poor telecommunications and electrical infrastructure. His place of accommodation didn't have a phone but with the help of a small satellite dish he was on his way communicating with the world.

Another way of looking at this, is realizing that traditional phone services (local and long distance) are becoming for all telephone companies rather minor parts of the business. Cellular and mobile services, and advanced communication features already constitute more than 50% of the revenue stream. Some projections indicate that in 20 years traditional services will constitute less than 1% of the market. With coming diversity of the communication industry, regulating the telecoms would become like regulating your local grocery store. Can you imagine the overhead and problems of having the local grocery store having to petition CRTC (and wait months for reply) each time it wanted to change the price of one of thousands of its items for sale? The cabbage could all go bad before the committee even meet.

One argument for regulation is that the new competitors in the field need an unlevel playing field and financial help to overcome the telecom monopoly. This argument is on closer examination ridiculous. Who are these competitors but AT&T, Microsoft, and a host of huge media and communication companies around the world? These companies have deep pockets, huge markets and are easily capable of competing against telephone companies like SaskTel, and Bell in their tiny markets. Besides these large companies there are also many small and excellent technology

companies competing successful in the many new niche markets arising. Web Hosting services, remote data backup, voice mail, internet portals, search engines, and telephone directory look-up are just a few of the businesses that have sprouted in this unregulated market.

If we believe in free enterprise, then isn't the consumer the ultimate regulation engine? Consumers will consistently chose the companies that provides the better value for their dollar. Another benefit of deregulation is removal of the costs of running the CRTC ... allowing lower taxes and a happier world.

Collin Carbno Business Analyst
SaskTel - Information Technology Management

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From: Kim Carroll
Sent: January 2, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. I believe it is important to create a fair and equitable regulatory environment, so I agree with local telephone service deregulation.

Thanks for your consideration,

Kim Carroll

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From: Mike Cassano
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:51 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC - Suggested Changes

Short email to indicate that I am in favour of your changes to the CRTC decision and your indication that you will be changing their recommendation.
CRTC has gone well past the appropriate position so your reversal is much welcomed in the market place.
Thanks for your attention to this.

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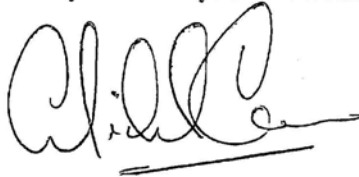
January 12, 2007

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please accept this letter as my support for the local telephone company and allowing them to compete on a level playing field. Indeed do not impose any restrictions on SaskTel nor make it easier for others to enter into this market.

SaskTel has and continues to provide local telephone service to the entire province whether sparsely populated or not populated at all. Indeed they have and continue to look after the entire province and for this and many other good reasons to do not deserve to be regulated and have one hand tied behind their backs when competing with someone trying to enter their market space.

Many thanks for your review and adherence to this request.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Cassano', with a horizontal line underneath.

Michael J. Cassano
President
Sask Region
National Congress of Italian Canadians

From: Gloria Ceslak
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Gloria Ceslak
Wireless CRC Support

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From: Scott Cheston
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Regulation and Competition in the Telecom Industry

To whom this may concern,

As a taxpayer, consumer and an employee of the telecommunications industry, it is my belief that we need full deregulation in the telecommunications industry. We need the ILEC's to be able to set their prices and compete fairly with the CLEC's. There should be no reason why the ILEC's have an advantage that is borne out of government regulation. If this is competition, then let the competition begin WITHOUT government intervention.

We need less government and more business in order to make Canada the greatest country in the world.

Scott Cheston
Regina, Saskatchewan

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From: Julie Chevrier
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Telephone Service Deregulation

I am emailing my views about the local telephone service deregulation over the CRTC. I believe this change is need in order for all Canadian companies to have a fair oppurtunity to compete in this huge market. Restricting certain companies and its services creates a great unfairness to companies such as SaskTel and advantages to the rest of the other companies who are not under regulation. To create a fair and equitable regulatory environment, I stongly suggest that the local telephone service be unregulated.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,
Julie Chevrier
(julie.chevrier@sasktel.sk.ca)

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From: Elaine Cockwell
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:27 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

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From: Dean Cook
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:00 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Fair Competition

To Whom it may concern,

I strongly believe that the ruling made to limit competition between the incumbent phone companies and the incoming phone company is completely unfair. I, as a consumer, feel that true competition provides the best value to the end user. These new competitors entering the local phone service industry are large, established corporations within Canada and do not require a "hand-up" from the government and ultimately, the consumer.

Let true competition rein.

R. Dean Cook
Saskatoon, Sask

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From: Aiden Cornwell
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Overturn CRTC forbearance decision

It is time to remove the unjust and unfair regulations that the CRTC has imposed on Telco's. At current date the CRTC is providing massive breaks to Shaw and Rogers. These 2 companies are huge and much larger than smaller Telco's such as SaskTel, and MTS. It is time for the government to send a message to the CRTC that favoritism to these 2 companies will end and create an equal playing field for all parties.

Sincerely,

Aiden Cornwell
Regina, Sk

From: Glen Dakis
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

The assumptions by which the CRTC was created may no longer apply in today's marketplace, therefore would necessitate new definitions and mandate. The monopolies which existed before, no longer exist today. There are new stronger competitors in the telecom industry and as such, they should be treated equally. Rogers, Shaw Cable, Telus, Bell and SaskTel are large enough that neither require help from a regulating body to compete. If the difference in size of these companies was larger, then it would be a different story.

I believe the cableco's are hiding behind the existing CRTC regulation as a way to gain unfair footing in the marketplace. Moreover, this regulation allows them to skim the cream of the crop without any social responsibility to those high-cost serving area communities which they avoid.

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Thanks,

Glen Dakis, Regina, Saskatchewan

From: Jamie Davidson
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

I am a SaskTel employee and I am sending you this email to give you my views that I fully support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision.

Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

Thanks!

Jamie Davidson
Administrator
Regulatory Affairs

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From: Sharon Davis
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:24 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

Good Afternoon,

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Regards,
Sharon Davis

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From: Tim Derzaph
Sent: December 19, 2006
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

I would like to voice my opinion to the recent article in the Canada Gazette. I support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision! If consumers are to have a quality selection of alternatives and new technology at prices that have real value, CRTC's forbearance decision must be overturned. The only obvious direction the CRTC has supported over the past few years is it has become anti-Canadian.

Tim

Tim Derzaph

From: Lana Doke
Sent: January 15, 2007 6:04 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

I am sending you this e-mail as part of the public consultation process with respect to the federal government's proposal to re-write the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I fully support the proposals.

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From: George Durell
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:54 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

I am sending you this e-mail to give you my views that I fully support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

George Durell
Regina, Sk

From: Nancy Edge
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

This email is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.
Thank you for your attention to this today.

Nancy Edge
SaskTel employee

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From: Robin Edwards
Sent: January 15, 2007 6:28 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

As the Minister said in his press release, the federal government's proposal to change the CRTC's forbearance decision will create a level playing field among competitors. This is a development that I support.

Robin Edwards

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From: Dianne Ehman
Sent: December 19, 2006
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Re: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

RE: local telephone service deregulation and the importance of creating a fair and equitable regulatory environment.

I am an employee at SaskTel and do not understand the common sense behind fair competition, by making it unfair for the smaller company to compete, which is SaskTel.

For example, I do not understand the benefit of making Sasktel charge to connect phone services (eg: On a winback) of \$75 when Shaw is allowed to charge nothing. How is this fair competition? Shaw is a far larger company than SaskTel with a lot more money and profit. The only reason they have not come here sooner is because we do not have the population of the larger cities in Canada, and they are certainly not interested in our majority of customers, who live in the rural areas. Fair competition means businesses competing with each other, able to charge what they want to charge with the consumer setting the demand on what the companies can charge (supply and demand) It is not "fair" if one being forced to charge more. Please reconsider this, as the interest is to have fair competition for all companies, which would be far better for our customer across the whole province.

Thank you
Dianne Ehman

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From: Kari EidsnessHodges
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:04 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

I am sending you this e-mail to give you my views that I fully support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.
I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

As the minister said in his press release, the federal government's proposal to change the CRTC's forbearance decision will create a level playing field among competitors. This is a development that I support.

Kari Eidsness Hodges
Martensville, Sask

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From: Gina Escanlar
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: local telephone service

I support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. I believe there should be a level playing field and CRTC's forbearance on incumbent phone companies is not for the better of the customers.

From: June Eskra
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Deregulation

I think this is an awesome occurrence. It's about time that you let SaskTel have equal opportunities as you do other telcos etc. If our products are similar, phone, net, tv. etc. why not deregulation so we can do what they do. Sasktel has been under the shadow of CRTC for too long while other companies can do what they want, and if we try we are reprimanded. If they want to play with us on our playing field, Saskatchewan, then let the games begin. Equal opportunities. Regardless if you have been around for 100 years or 10.

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From: Everett Florence
Sent: January 16, 2007 2:24 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

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From: Kevin Florence
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local forbearance in Saskatchewan

To whom it may concern:

I have been a Saskatchewan resident for 45 years (my entire life) and throughout my adult years always relied on local phone service from Saskatchewan Telecommunications (SaskTel) . Throughout this time I have always received excellent service and great customer support when adding or changing services from SaskTel.

To this end SaskTel as a crown corporation employs over 4000 people all over the province and has been rated one of the top 100 companies for over 5 years straight. SaskTel's head office and all major city centers are viewed as critical to Saskatchewan's economy for years to come. This is now being threatened by companies with head offices in Calgary and Toronto and are not interested for that matter in Saskatchewan's economy or perhaps do not even provide a local presence of customer service in Saskatchewan. These threats come as CLEC's providing service in the two major centers Regina and Saskatoon but what about service in LaRonge or Climax ? These competitors simply want to CHERRY pick the Saskatchewan residents that only see a cheaper alternative to a Regulated SaskTel !

Please consider changing the exchange based forbearance rules to allow SaskTel to competitively compete with the cheaper Introductory prices of \$29.99 a monthly for local and unlimited LD for the 1st 6 month's.

Regards,
a Concerned Saskatchewan resident

From: Nancy Fox
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:36 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Re: Proposal to Re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

I am a SaskTel employee and I am sending you this email to give you my views that I fully support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada. Thank you for your ongoing attention to this matter.

Nancy Fox Administrator
SaskTel - Regulatory Affairs

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From: David Gagnon
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:24 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

The federal government's proposal to change the CRTC's forbearance decision will create a level playing field among competitors. This is a development that I support.

David Gagnon, I.S.P.
Information Technology Planner - Disaster Recovery
SaskTel

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From: Steve Garner
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:34 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Decision 2006-15

Hello,

This email is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation.

I am a relatively new employee with SaskTel and have been paying close attention to current industry issues, such as the the CRTC's forbearance decision 2006-15. I would just like to take the opportunity to state that I believe all Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. A competitive market will ultimately provide customers a more favourable situation and is the only real mechanism that can create a level playing field for service providers.

I support this significant development as well as the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Thank you for your time.

Steve Garner, B.Comm.
Marketing Analyst
SaskTel Carrier Relations
Regina, SK S4P 3Y2

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From: Susan Getzlaf
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:11 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

To whom it may concern:

I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

Susan Getzlaf

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From: Patti Gilmour
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC reform

I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

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From: Michele Glaze
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

To Whom It May Concern:

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long overdue and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Sincerely,

Michele Glaze

From: Daryl Godfrey
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:25 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to Re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

Dear Sir/Madam,

This email is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Regards,

Daryl Godfrey
Regina, Saskatchewan

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From: Joan Gourlie
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:19 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

I support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. We need a level playing field!

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From: Dr. Shila Heeralall, Individual from Mississauga, Ontario
To: Mr. Leonard St-Aubin, Director General, Telecommunications Policy, Industry
Canada (by email)
Date: January 14, 2007

**Canada Gazette Vol. 140, No. 50, Part 1 – December 16, 2006
Order Varying Telecom Decision CRTC 2006-15**

In response to the Canada Gazette Vol. 140, No. 50, Part 1 – December 16, 2006 and the proposed “Order Varying Telecom Decision CRTC 2006-15”, I am submitting my comments as an individual. I am a consumer and I am also a telecom engineer with a broad international experience in the telecom industry. I care most about public interests.

The essence of the proposal is to deregulate local phone service pricing based on a view that market forces are enough to drive prices down. Furthermore, the view is that wireline phone companies, wireless phone companies, cable TV companies, and Internet phone companies constitute equivalent choices competing with one another.

While I agree that market forces should be used whenever possible, I have some concerns about the proposal. Below I explain my concerns along with my suggestions.

1. Market forces alone do not take care of everything, hence the important responsibilities of the public sector (CRTC, government) to complement market forces.
 - a. The public sector must provide strong consumer protection by requiring service providers to comply with “state-of-the-art” public requirements. I say “state-of-the-art” because as technology evolves public requirements must also evolve. Requirements should include wireline quality and reliability as the benchmark for basic telephone service and for emergency services. There should also be new requirements for the new services, especially as these become part of basic telecom services. Public requirements are analogous to building codes for buildings.
 - b. The public sector must be pro-active in educating consumers and empowering consumer voices in order to balance the aggressive advertisements from profit-motivated companies. This will be an effective way to enforce regulations, analogous to how nutrition education is influencing food shopping and in turn forcing changes in the food industry. Empowering consumer voices will also make them a driving force behind the evolution of future telecom infrastructures, currently consumer input in that area is painfully lacking. It takes happy consumers to achieve a flourishing industry!
 - c. The public sector must recognize telecom services as one of the basic needs of life and apply special regulations accordingly. That includes controlling the price ceiling and the quality standards for basic telecom services. This is similar to special regulations that apply to other basic needs such as housing and food.

- d. The public sector must acknowledge that due to economies of scale in telecom infrastructure there may never be enough competing service providers to make market forces fully effective. The global trend to consolidation in recent years is very much due to economies of scale. This is also why it is harder for new competitors to get established. Therefore regulatory safeguards must remain as strong as possible, both to protect consumers and to promote effective competition.
2. The type of companies identified as being competing choices are not really equivalent choices for consumers.
 - a. That's because under current regulation each is generally limited to one type of infrastructure such as wireline PSTN or wireless PSTN or cable TV or Internet voice – but each of these inherently has different strengths and weaknesses. The consequences are twofold: (i) market forces are distorted, and (ii) consumers are denied the economies of synergy and other benefits of converged infrastructures that could bring together the various strengths.
 - b. The current challenge for the telecom industry is to bring about the convergence of infrastructures as well as the convergence of user devices. That's where innovation is really needed. While various companies are already experimenting with the convergence of user devices, the convergence of infrastructures is still being impeded by the lack of proper regulatory reforms.
 - c. The long term goal should be to have competing service providers with exactly the same regulations (rights and responsibilities) applying to each and every one. Each should have the right to deploy whatever infrastructure it may need to best offer a full range of services to its customers. That should include the freedom to explore new frontiers such as deploying a converged infrastructure. Each should be responsible to comply with all public requirements that apply to the services that it chooses to offer, irrespective of how these services are delivered.
 3. Each decision, whether from the CRTC or from Industry Canada, should be a step towards the vision of strong consumer protection in conjunction with a regulatory framework that opens up new frontiers of progress for the benefit of consumers and companies alike. The proposed “Order Varying Telecom Decision CRTC 2006-15” does not constitute a variation in the right direction for the reasons explained above. The original CRTC decision is more acceptable for now, however much more still needs to be done to improve telecom regulations.

I hope that you may take my comments into consideration.

Dr. Shila Heeralall
Individual

From: Doug Hilderman
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:29 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Decision 2006-15

Hi:

I am sending you this email as part of the public consultation process with respect to the federal government's proposal to re-write the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I fully support the proposals.

Thanks

Doug Hilderman - A.Sc.T. RCDD
Client Communication Engineering Manager
SaskTel - Business Solutions

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From: Daryl Hoffman
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:41 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Decision on Local Telephone Deregulation

CRTC Decision on Local Telephone Deregulation

As a resident of Saskatchewan I was very disappointed in the CRTC decision in the local forbearance framework proceeding.

The effect of the decision is that market forces will not be relied upon in the Saskatchewan market for many years to come. Not only did the Commission choose an artificially high market share loss before granting forbearance (25% contrasted with the 5% threshold used in the cable markets) but by lumping in massive rural areas with urban areas to come up with only five regions in the province, the effective market share loss that must be suffered in order to get forbearance if a competitor enters the largest urban centre in the region is:

- In Regina-Moose Mountain local forbearance region - 36% of consumer lines and 31% of business lines in the Regina exchange
- In Saskatoon-Biggar local forbearance region - 32% of consumer lines and 30% of business lines in the Saskatoon exchange
- In Swift-Current-Moose Jaw - 67% of consumer lines and 70% of business lines in the Moose Jaw exchange
- In Yorkton-Melville - 119% of consumer lines and 85% of business lines in the Yorkton exchange
- In the Northern and Prince Albert local forbearance region - 140% of consumer lines and 106% of business lines in the Prince Albert exchange.

The impact on customers will be that they will not get the benefit of market forces, which means slower innovation and much less price competition. Much less price competition will occur as a result of:

- SaskTel's inability to change prices without prior CRTC approval.
- SaskTel only being able to offer very limited promotions.
- SaskTel's inability to bundle local service with other services without specific CRTC approval of those prices.
- SaskTel's inability to make winback calls or talk to customers for 3 months after losing them.

This decision reaffirms the need for the federal government to begin the reform of the CRTC sooner rather than later as it demonstrates the extent to which the CRTC is incapable of understanding the Saskatchewan market. In addition:

- the decision adds new regulatory rules to an already out of date framework
- the decision creates more intrusive and costly micromanagement
- the differences between the threshold for deregulation permitted the cable industry (5% over a service area) and that foisted upon the telecom industry today are impossible to rationalize in view of the convergence and technological change which is underway. This is particularly problematic for SaskTel when it wins a cable customer from Shaw and is faced with a fully competitive response from Shaw yet for many years to come when SaskTel loses a telephone customer to Shaw it will be hamstrung in its competitive response.

- The CRTC has chosen to apply a one-size-fits-all solution to forbearance demonstrating once again its clear lack of understanding of the differences between the regions of Canada and its inability to understand the realities of the different markets in those different regions.

I would like to commend the Federal Government for taking a leadership role with its proposal to create a revised framework to determine when to deregulate retail local telephone services provided by the incumbent telephone companies (ILECs), including SaskTel. The revised framework would rely more on market forces, rather than detailed day-to-day regulation, thus delivering the benefits of a fully competitive marketplace to consumers much more rapidly.

Under the government's proposed forbearance framework, the market share loss criteria established in the CRTC's local forbearance decision would be replaced by a "competitive infrastructure test". The proposal also suggests the adoption of the ILEC's local exchange as a more appropriate geographic area than that in the CRTC's framework. These are consistent with the federal government's objective of relying to a greater extent on market forces than regulation in the telecommunications market.

I support the government's intention to remove the majority of marketing restrictions that currently apply to the ILEC's marketing of their local services.

Regards,

Daryl Hoffman
Regina, SK

From: Karen Hunchuk
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:23 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

I support the federal government's proposal to change the CRTC's forbearance decision. I believe it is in the best interest of all Canadians that there is level playing field in the marketplace. It is time that the CRTC deregulates the local telephone service and change the way it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Karen Hunchuk, B. Admin
Accountant - System Analyst
SaskTel - Finance

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From: Landon Irwin
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:19 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

As part of your efforts to reform the CRTC's regulation of telecommunications, I support your government's proposal to re-write the Forebearance decision.

Thank-you for your time,

Landon Irwin

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From: Doug Isted
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:42 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Deregulation of local telephone service

As an employee of SaskTel, I fully support your efforts to reform the CRTC's regulation of telecommunications and the proposal to re-write the Forebearance decision. Creating a level playing field in a competitive market is in the best interests of Canada. The Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers must be able to compete one on one with new entrants.

Many of the new entrants in the local telephones market, such as cable operators are well able to compete on a head to head basis without CRTC rules to tip the scale to their favour. Cable operators have considerable existing market presence and customer base in many Saskatchewan communities. In addition, entrants in the Local telephone services market have National presence and volumes, making them well equipped to compete in the Saskatchewan market. Further the non-incumbent telcos are not regulated to provide service in higher cost serving areas, thus allowed to concentrate their efforts on the most profitable markets.

The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

As a consumer, believe that the marketplace, will better serve consumers and businesses if the proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service become law.

regards
Doug Isted
Regina, SK

From: Arnie James
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

Is local telephone service deregulation legal?

Because the Federal government is forcing the deterioration of the Saskatchewan telecommunications network.

The people of Saskatchewan built SaskTel, and now are being forced to accept the use of their telephone network by people who have not contributed to the building of that network. Unless both incumbent and competitive telcos contribute equally to the construction and maintenance of the provincial network, no matter what services they choose to sell, the infrastructure will deteriorate.

Forcing incumbents to accept selling services at a premium isn't competition, it is forcing the telecommunications infrastructure to get worse, because incumbent prices can be improved by reducing investment in the Saskatchewan network.

The Canadian government must have the right to force deregulation for competitive telecommunications prices, so I must hold the government responsible for any deterioration of service and increase in price. What has the Canadian government done to insure the correct amount of money is being put back into the Saskatchewan telecommunications network, to not only maintain it, but to keep it current with improving technology.

From: Dennis Johns
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:32 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reforms - Local Telephone Services....

Hello Industry Canada:

The CRTC, although with honorable intentions, has gradually created a non-level playing field in the telecommunications industry in Canada. We are now at a point where their decisions are forcing certain outcomes in the telephony market, rather than letting the well educated consumers and the marketplace itself decide. The proposed changes to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are now due and I hopefully believe would result in the CRTC changing its entire approach on how it mandates telecommunications in Canada.

As do many in the geographically sparse locals of western Canada; I understand that 'some' management of this industry is required, to insure that even the most remote habitants are able to receive some form of analog and/or digital communications services, at a reasonable cost to THEMSELVES. Therefore I do understand the intent of having some mandate-mechanisms; but in this case we need to 'level' the playground a bit?. so to speak?.

Kind Regards and thank you for considering my comments and concerns;

Dennis Johns, A.Sc.T., P.Eng.

P.S. - On another topic.... I DO fear too much foreign investment in the Canadian Telecom industry; especially from the US! We do NOT need to 'sell-out' to others!! We NEED our OWN networks; and control thereof!!! We still need national management and control of our information and its SECURITY!!!!

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From: Rob Kaminski
Sent: January 15, 2007 5:37 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: local telephone service deregulation

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. I want you to know that I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

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From: Betty Keddy
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:36 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

I support your proposals for deregulating local telephone service.

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From: Joe Kendall
Sent: January 15,
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject:

To whom it may concern Sask. Tel should be able to play on a level playing field .

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From: Jim Kerr
Sent: January 15, 2007 5:18 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-writ the CRTC's forbearance decision

I am sending you this e-mail to give you my views that I fully support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

Regards,

Jim Kerr

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From: Greg Kindred
Sent: January 15, 2007 5:05 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Forebearance Decision

Let's keep things fair!

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Regards,...

Greg Kindred

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From: Shirley Klein
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:36 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

S. Klein

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From: Lana Kleisinger
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:51 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

This e-mail is in response to the Canada Gazette Notice with respect to the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation. The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. It is trying to force certain outcomes in the market rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. I believe that Canadians will be better served by less regulation and more reliance on market forces. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due. I also support the other initiatives that the federal government has taken to change the way in which the CRTC regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Lana Kleisinger
Regina, Saskatchewan

From: Charmaine Korchynski
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: support proposal

I support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. I feel it is important to have a fair and equitable regulatory environment.

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From: Hal Kurtenbach
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:29 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

I believe that the marketplace will better serve consumers and businesses if your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service become law.

Hal Kurtenbach

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From: Tracy Kydd
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:29 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

I am writing in response to the public gazette notice proposing changes to the framework for local telephone service deregulation. I believe that Canada will be better served by your proposals than the CRTC regulating competing parties differently.

Thank you.
Tracy Kydd

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From: Sherry Lambert
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: overturning CRTC decision on forbearance for telco's

I believe that we should make all telco's able to compete on the same playing field ,especially since the large companies paid to put in all the infrastructure. Its unfair of the CRTC to think they only will control the large Telco's and let the smaller people not have to be regulated at all. How can that make it a competitive market place????

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From: Sharon Lang
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:26 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long overdue and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

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From: Marcel Langevin
Sent: January 15, 2007 3:29 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Proposal to re-write the CRTC's forbearance decision

As part of your efforts to reform the CRTC's regulation of telecommunications, I support your government's proposal to re-write the Forebearance decision.

I believe that the marketplace will better serve consumers and businesses if your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service become law. I believe that Canada will be better served by your proposals than the CRTC regulating competing parties differently.

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Sincerely,
Marcel Langevin
Regina, Sk

From: Lea Lapointe
Sent: December 19, 2006
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006

Please level the playing field!

SaskTel and other ILECs are facing undue restrictions in the local access marketplace due to the CRTC's regulations. These restrictions do not benefit our customers, whom the CRTC should be trying to represent.

I support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision, and I truly hope that we can return to a telecommunications environment influenced by market pressures and customer needs!

Léa Lapointe - Implementation & Support Manager
SaskTel Customer Relationship Centre

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From: Jackie Laurans
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

I am writing in response to your public notice proposing changes to the framework for local telephone service deregulation. I believe Canadians will be better served by your proposals rather than the CRTC treating competing parties differently.

Through treating the competing companies fairly a level playing field will be created in Canada. This will provide the most benefit to the consumers in Canada.

Jackie Laurans, CMA
Regina, Sask.

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From: Kelly Laurans
Sent: January 15, 2007 11:33 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

This e-mail is in response to your public notice proposing changes to the framework for local telephone service deregulation in Canada. I believe Canadians will be better served by your proposals rather than the CRTC treating competing parties differently.

A level playing field is the best way to provide the most benefit to the consumers in Canada.

Kelly Laurans
Regina, Sask.

From: Bill Lawson
Sent: January 15, 2007 5:42 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

I am in support of government's efforts to reform CRTC's regulation of telecommunications. To create a level playing field among competitors will benefit Canadians.

Thank You

Bill Lawson

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From: Rick Lazar
Sent: January 15, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Decision 2006 - 15

Dear Sir / Madame ,

I am sending you this e-mail to give you my views that I fully support your proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

Regards ,

Rick Lazar

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From: Mark Leier
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:26 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local telephone service deregulation

The CRTC has created an unlevel playing field in Canada. They are trying to force certain outcomes in the market, rather than letting consumers and the marketplace decide. The proposals to change the CRTC's rules on local telephone service deregulation are long over due and should hopefully result in the CRTC changing its entire approach to how it regulates telecommunications in Canada.

Regards,

Mark Leier

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From: Donna Lendzyk
Sent: January 16, 2007 10:27 AM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: CRTC Reform

I fully support the proposal to overturn the forbearance decision.
Creating a level playing field should be in the best interests of Canada.

Sincerely,
Donna Lendzyk

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From: Donna Lindskog
Sent: January 15, 2007 2:28 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 16, 2006 re Local Telephone Service

To whom it may concern,
I would like to support the proposal to overturn the CRTC's forbearance decision. The government's proposal makes more sense.

For local telephone service, I would like to stress the importance of creating a fair and equitable regulatory environment.

Donna Lindskog, M.Sc., I.S.P.
Business Consulting Manager
SaskTel - Information Technology Management

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From: Ken & Melody Lozinsky
Sent: January 15, 2007 11:34 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Support for Re-writing CRTC Decsion

Several observations :

- We support the government`s push to reform the CRTC decision and we agree with your thoughts on changing the rules for deregulating the telephone companies ;
- We believe that everybody will be better served by your recommendations than allowing the competing parties to be treated differently . In other words , we are best served by less regulation and letting the market dictate the players and the rates in the telephone industry .

As a Saskatchewan resident , I have always supported SaskTel and the excellent service which they provide to us - their customers . Please do not do anything which impacts negatively on SaskTel or the service which they provide to us . Many other companies in North America could take a lead from the excellent service provided by SaskTel !!

Thank you .

Melody and Ken Lozinsky

From: Trent Lowes
Sent: January 16, 2007
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Phone Service

Regarding the deregulation of local phone service. My views are that the less regulation in this area the better and support the decision.

Trent Lowes

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From: Valerie Lukash
Sent: January 15, 2007 4:45 PM
To: Telecom Submissions
Subject: Local Telephone Service Deregulation

To whom it may concern:

I support your proposals to change the rules for deregulating local telephone service.

Regards,

Valerie Lukash