



February 28, 2006

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND  
OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

**Mary Jo Kunkle, Executive Secretary**  
Michigan Public Service Commission  
6545 Mercantile Way  
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: In the matter of the Commission's own motion, to implement  
MCL 484-2504, as amended by 2005 PA 235  
Case No. U-14776

Dear Ms. Kunkle:

Transmitted herewith on behalf of Excel Telecommunications, Inc. please find the enclosed Small and Minority-Owned Business Participation Plan as required in the above-referenced matter. Should there be any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact the undersigned directly at (972) 478-3376.

Respectfully submitted,

*Courtney Weddington*

Courtney Weddington  
Sr. Regulatory Analyst

**EXCEL TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.**  
**MICHIGAN SMALL AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PLAN**

**Statement of Purpose**

As a responsible corporate resident of the State of Michigan, Excel Telecommunications, Inc. ("Excel") will seek to purchase goods and service from small and minority businesses to the maximum extent feasible with consideration to price and quality factors and to provide, to the maximum extent feasible, technical assistance to such businesses.

Excel's goal shall be the full and equal participation of such businesses as defined by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget. Excel shall strive to achieve the purchase of Excel's total annual need for Michigan operations for goods and/or services from small and minority-owned telecommunication businesses as defined by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget, which is equal to the percentage of small and minority suppliers doing business in Excel's service territory, providing such goods and/or services are offered on a market competitive basis.

This is a plan of objectives and is not intended to create any legal obligations of Excel or any of its parent companies, subsidiaries, or affiliates, to any person.

**Participation Plan**

Excel will advise all personnel to the existence of the plan and of the company's goals established in the plan. Excel will designate an employee to have the responsibility of developing policies and procedures to allow for the success of Excel's efforts to purchase goods and services from small and minority-owned businesses.

Excel will establish targets to strive for in connection with reaching the annual goal or purchasing the percentage of goods and services from small and minority-owned businesses.

Excel will adopt a system for identification of small and minority-owned businesses. Specifically, Excel will prepare a form designed to determine the qualifications of any business with respect to their status as a small or minority-owned business. Excel will notify, to the practicable extent, such business. Excel will notify, to the practicable extent, such businesses of the existence of this Plan. Excel will invite bids or issue requests for proposals, or otherwise solicit, offers and bids from such businesses.

Excel will exercise diligence and sensitivity to ensure that opportunities to small and minority-owned businesses for doing businesses with Excel are equivalent to those provided to those entities which are not small and minority-owned.

Excel will provide technical assistance to any small or minority-owned business requiring interconnection to Excel's network and will provide technical assistance to such businesses offering telecommunications goods and services to the extent feasible. Excel will inform such businesses for the availability of such assistance.