

WORLDCOM, INC.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

D.T.E. 99-271

Respondents/

Positions: Sherry Lichtenberg/Senior Manager for
Product Development

Alhagi Mbowe/Bell Atlantic Audit Analyst

REQUEST: Department of Telecommunications and Energy, Record Requests

DATED: August 3, 2000

ITEM: DTE-WCOM-5 [Checklist item # 2] See WorldCom Supplemental Declaration of Lichtenberg and Sivori at ¶134: Explain why it is not possible for Worldcom to validate or audit the accuracy of paper bills sent by BA-MA.

REPLY: The nature of paper bills is such that WorldCom is unable to write programs and extract audit information from them. WorldCom's audit system is based on a procedure that queries billing data. These queries are program-based and provide us with validation, rate, tariff, and disconnect information among other key information used in auditing. WorldCom cannot extract this information from paper bills. One paper Billing Account Number can exceed 1000 pages. Imagine trying to browse through each page/detail to validate elements on the bill.