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NS/EP Telecom News



June 1993

Volume 4 Number 6

Clinton/Gore Technology Policy: Reviving the Economy

Efforts by the Clinton Administration to bolster national competitiveness and fuel economic expansion continued to develop with the February 22, 1993, release of *Technology for America's Economic Growth: A New Direction to Build Economic Strength*. This report, which represents a further refinement of policies articulated by President Clinton and Vice President Gore during the 1992 campaign, outlines a new technology policy that more closely ties economic vitality and competitiveness with national security. This policy has three basic goals.

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Divestiture II

Reacting to changes in the marketplace and challenges posed by competitors, several Regional Bell Holding Companies (RBHCs) and local exchange carriers (LECs) are proposing restructuring strategies, the impact of which may be as dramatic as the divestiture of AT&T. In developments that will speed the end of LEC monopoly control over the local exchange, these companies are proactively spinning off units and streamlining organizational structures to better compete with new market entrants and take better advantage of economic opportunities.

see DIVESTITURE II, page 4

Network Reliability Council to Disband

Pending FCC approval of recommendations made at its April 14 meeting, as of June 1, 1993, the Network Reliability Council (NRC) will disband and transfer its responsibilities to a newly-created Exchange Carriers Standards Association (ECSA) Reliability Steering Committee.

According to NRC Steering Committee Chairman Ross Ireland, the ECSA Reliability Steering Committee will consist of three local exchange carriers, three interexchange carriers, one manufacturer, one major user, one consumer group, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and the Communications Workers of America. Cellular service and competitive access providers will participate as associate members. According to *Telecommunications Reports*, it will perform quarterly analyses of FCC outage reports to determine if any significant degradation in network reliability had occurred. If necessary, the committee will be able to obtain additional data from carriers.

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