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**News from: Commissioner Dana Murphy**

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**STATEMENT BY**  
**OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSIONER**  
**DANA L. MURPHY**

In the past few months, the Commission has attempted to completely rework funding mechanisms involving payments among telecommunications carriers for the use of landline facilities for intrastate long distance calls. The Commission has embarked on rulemaking to make statewide long-distance telephone service toll-free. In neither instance has the Commission been provided with the type of well-researched, legally sufficient, economically viable options that should be considered before embarking on such radical changes to our telecommunications environment. Now Staff's filing in Cause No. PUD 201000027 appears to seek even more change in the regulatory landscape before the weed-pulling is finished on the ground we already are trying to tend. While the industry and public are reeling from all that has been proposed, Staff wants to move up by more than one year the date for industry reports on telephone competition. The timing is not right to demand early reports from the state's phone companies on so-called competitive technologies and the whole panoply of new proposals in Staff's application. It's time to put a stop to this willy-nilly approach that has caused so much confusion. It's time to be more thoughtful and better prepared. From the beginning, I stated we needed to be mindful of costs and the effects on consumers and industry, especially in these tough economic times. As one of three commissioners, I say it's time for Staff to reconsider how they are proceeding and for the Commission to take a more thorough, well-reasoned approach.

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