A. As noted above, a trunk group is defined by two switches and contains individual trunk members, each of which can carry a phone conversation on the PSTN. You can think of a trunk group as a highway between two cities and the individual trunks as lanes on the highway. The larger the highway, the more lanes it has and the more traffic it can carry. Trunk groups usually come in multiples of DS1 transport, which carries 24 separate trunks or channels. A trunk group between two large switches can carry hundreds of simultaneous phone conversations.

Q. WHAT IS CHARTER ASKING THIS COMMISSION TO DECIDE ON THIS ISSUE?

A. Charter is asking this Commission to rule that SBC must allow Charter to use **a** single interconnection **facility for all** trunk groups between the carriers instead of multiple **facilities.** ~~trunk groups, using PLU for carrier billing purposes.~~ This will preserve network efficiency, ~~call blocking standards~~ and will minimize the **facilities** ~~trunking and switching equipment~~ needed for interconnection. The language that Charter is proposing for this issue is fair and balanced and will allow the efficient use of **facilities** ~~trunks~~ by both companies.

IV.D. APPENDIX NIM ISSUE (3): RESPONSIBILITY FOR MISCELLANEOUS TRUNK GROUPS

- Should Charter be responsible for the facilities that carry OS/DA, E911, Mass Calling and Meet Point Trunk groups?[7]

Q. WHAT IS CHARTER'S POSITION ON THIS ISSUE?

A. Charter agrees that certain types of traffic (such as OS/DS, 911, mass calling and Meet-Point trunk groups which permit two carriers jointly providing access to separately charge the affected IXC for the use of whatever facilities the individual