



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Social Security Administration

Refer to: S2D2B5 - CL-FOIA

26 Federal Plaza
Room 4032
New York, N. Y. 10278

March 2, 1994

Mr. Jere B. Fletcher
Public Utility Law Project
39 Columbia Street
Albany, N. Y. 12207-2717

MAR - 9 1994

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

In response to your letter of January 31, 1994, we are authorizing approval for a confidential, computerized data exchange of SSI recipient data between the New York State Department of Social Services and New York Telephone (NYNEX), a regulated public utility.

This exchange of information which you described is considered "routine use" under the Privacy Act regulations. You may not redisclose information received thru this data exchange to other entities. The data exchange approved is for the specific and limited purposes of automatically enrolling, verifying and recertifying the telephone Lifeline eligibility of SSI recipients in New York State. As indicated on page 5 of your letter, you correctly understood that the New York Department of Social Services will only convey whether the person identified is eligible for Lifeline and not disclose the particular category of eligibility (SSI, Medicare, Food Stamps, etc.).

Any questions you may have on this matter may be directed to Mary M. Francis at (212) 264-2905.

Sincerely,

Gregory Machler
Director
RSI/SSI Programs Branch