



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

October 27, 2016

Via E-mail

LeRoy T. Carlson, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc.
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 4000
Chicago, Illinois 60602

**Re: Telephone and Data Systems, Inc.
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015
Filed February 24, 2016
File No. 1-14157**

Dear Mr. Carlson:

We have limited our review of your filing to your contacts with countries that have been identified as state sponsors of terrorism, and we have the following comments. Our review with respect to this issue does not preclude further review by the Assistant Director group with respect to other issues. At this juncture, we are asking you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter within ten business days by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing the information you provide in response to this comment, we may have additional comments.

General

1. On your website you list the international calling rates for Sudan and Syria, countries which are designated by the State Department as state sponsors of terrorism and are subject to U.S. economic sanctions and export controls. Your Form 10-K does not include disclosure about contacts with those countries. Please provide us with information regarding your contacts with Sudan and Syria, if any, whether through direct or indirect arrangements. You should describe any services you have provided into Sudan and Syria, directly or indirectly, and any agreements, arrangements or other contacts you have had with the governments of Sudan and Syria or entities they control.
2. Please discuss the materiality of any contacts with Sudan and Syria you describe in response to the comment above, and whether the contacts constitute a material investment risk for your security holders. You should address materiality in quantitative

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terms, including the approximate dollar amounts of any revenues, assets and liabilities associated with Sudan and Syria for the last three fiscal years and the subsequent interim period. Also, address materiality in terms of qualitative factors that a reasonable investor would deem important in making an investment decision, including the potential impact of corporate activities upon a company's reputation and share value. Various state and municipal governments, universities and other investors have proposed or adopted divestment or similar initiatives regarding investment in companies that do business with U.S.-designated state sponsors of terrorism. You should address the potential impact of the investor sentiment evidenced by such actions directed toward companies that have operations associated with Sudan and Syria.

We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Please contact Pradip Bhaumik, Special Counsel, at (202) 551-3333 or me at (202) 551-3470 if you have any questions about the comments or our review.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cecilia Blye

Cecilia Blye, Chief
Office of Global Security Risk

cc: Larry Spirgel
Assistant Director
Division of Corporation Finance