

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Commission's Consider-)
ation of All Negotiated Interconnection)
Agreements Pursuant to Section 252(e) of) Case No. 97-595-TP-NAG
the Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in its August 8, 1996 First Report and Order, CC Docket 96-981 (*In the Matter of the Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996*), determined that all interconnection agreements between two Class A carriers², including those negotiated before February 8, 1996, must be filed with the appropriate state commission for approval consistent with the 1996 Act. Consistent with this directive, the Commission, in its local competition guidelines in Case No. 95-845-TP-COI, (*In the Matter of the Commission Investigation Relative to the Establishment of Local Exchange Competition and Other Competitive Issues*) required that any interconnection agreement negotiated between Class A carriers before the date of enactment of the 1996 Act, and which are still in effect, shall be jointly filed with the Commission no later than June 30, 1997.
- (2) For the purpose of administrative ease, those contracts, for which the parties are in full agreement and which contain no disputed language, should be docketed under this case number (97-595-TP-NAG). Those agreements which one or more parties wish to revise and the proposed revisions are in dispute should be docketed under individual "UNC" case filings. The Commission recognizes that some of the Class A carriers are presently renegotiating their interconnection agreements in order to consolidate a number of their existing contracts with another Class A carrier into one encompassing agreement. The Commission encourages this endeavor and

¹ CC Docket 96-98 was initiated by the FCC in order to establish regulations implementing Section 251 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

² Class A carriers are defined as companies having annual revenues from regulated telecommunications operations of \$100,000,000 or more. 47 C.F.R. 32.11(a)(1).

expects, as referenced above, that the Class A carriers will submit either their consolidated agreements or individual company agreements, including those negotiated before February 8, 1996, and previously filed with the Commission.

- (3) In accordance with the Commission's March 27, 1997 Entry in Case No. 96-463-TP-UNC *In the Matter of the Implementation of the Mediation and Arbitration Provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996*, the submitted agreements shall be effective upon filing, but subject to a 90-day review and approval consistent with the 1996 Act.
- (4) With respect to agreements between Class A carriers and Class B carriers and between Class B carriers and other Class B carriers, we will address the timing of the filing of these agreements by separate entry at a future point in time.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That all interconnection agreements between two Class A carriers must be filed with the Commission in accordance with Finding (2). It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record in Case 95-845-TP-COI.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Craig A. Glazer, Chairman

Jolynn Barry Butler

Ronda Hartman Fergus

David W. Johnson

Judith A. Jones