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**Public Service Commission**  
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David L. Armstrong  
Chairman

James W. Gardner  
Vice Chairman

January 17, 2012

Stites & Harbison, PLLC  
Attention: R. Benjamin Crittenden  
421 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 634  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0634

Re: Windstream Kentucky East, LLC  
Petition for Confidential Treatment received 10/28/11  
PSC Reference – Case No. 2008-00203

Dear Mr. Crittenden:

The Public Service Commission has received the Petition for Confidential Treatment you filed on October 28, 2011 on behalf of Windstream Kentucky East, LLC ("Windstream") to protect certain information filed with the Commission as confidential pursuant to Section 7 of 807 KAR 5:001 and KRS 61.870. The information you seek to have treated as confidential is identified as being contained in its Responses to Brandenburg's Data Request No. 1, and Verizon's Data Request No. 19. The information is described as the Traffic Study which includes time, data, duration, originating telephone number and terminating telephone number; and Network Cost Study describing Windstream's network costs. The Commission further notes that the information is contained on Compac Discs.

Your justification for having the Commission handle this material as confidential is that the public disclosure of the information would compromise Windstream's competitive position in the industry, which would result in an unfair commercial advantage to Windstream's competitors.

Based on a review of the information and pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, the Commission has determined that the information requested to be held confidential is of a proprietary nature, which if publicly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to Windstream's competitors. Therefore, the information requested to be treated as confidential **meets the criteria for confidential protection** and will be maintained as a nonpublic part of the Commission's file in this case. The

Mr. Crittenden  
January 17, 2012  
Page 2

procedure for usage of confidential materials during formal proceedings may be found at Section 7(8) of 807 KAR 5:001.

If the information becomes publicly available or no longer warrants confidential treatment, Windstream Kentucky East, LLC is required by Section 8(9)(a) of 807 KAR 5:001 to inform the Commission so that the information may be placed in the public record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Derouen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

Jeff Derouen  
Executive Director

kg/

cc: Parties of Record