COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

THE TARIFF APPLICATION OF SOUTH) CENTRAL BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY) TO RESTORE FULL DIRECTORY) CASE N ASSISTANCE EXEMPTIONS TO CERTAIN) HANDICAPPED CUSTOMERS)

CASE NO. 9401

ORDER

Introduction

On August 2, 1985, South Central Bell Telephone Company ("SCB") filed a tariff with the Commission to restore directory assistance exemptions that had been discontinued in Case No. 9160, Petition of South Central Bell Telephone Company to Change and Increase Certain Rates and Charges for Intrastate Telephone Service. The tariff filing was suspended on August 15, 1985.

Discussion

SCB proposed to allow exemption from directory assistance charges for residence and single line business customers certified by a physician or social service agency as unable to use a telephone directory due to a visual or physical handicap. Similar exemption would apply to multiline business customers who certify that 75 percent or more of their employees were unable to use a telephone directory due to a visual or physical handicap.

The Commission is of the opinion that restoring these directory assistance exemptions is reasonable. However, the Commission is also of the opinion that the 75 percent certification requirement for multiline business customers is unfair. The same exemption conditions should apply to all customers.

Findings and Orders

The Commission, having considered the evidence of record and being advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

1. No hearing is necessary in this matter.

2. Directory assistance exemptions for customers certified as unable to use a telephone directory due to a visual or physical handicap should be allowed.

3. The 75 percent certification requirement in the case of multiline business customers should not be allowed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Directory assistance exemptions shall apply to residence, business single line, and business multiline customers under the same terms and conditions as applied prior to the Commission's Order in Case No. 9160, effective on and after the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 24th day of January, 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Secretary