

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL TELECHARGE,)
INC., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC)
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO OPERATE AS A) CASE NO. 10002
RESELLER OF TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES)
WITHIN THE STATE OF KENTUCKY)

O R D E R

On November 9, 1988, International Telecharge, Inc. ("ITI"), filed a motion requesting that the Commission approve ITI "at least on an interim basis" for intrastate service to public payphones. Specifically, ITI requests this "limited authority" so that ITI might provide service to payphones owned by South Central Bell Telephone Company ("South Central Bell"). While ITI's request is not limited to South Central Bell payphones, but rather to all "public payphones", apparently no other local exchange carrier is currently taking steps to implement a presubscription plan for its own, i.e. LEC-owned, payphones.

In its motion, ITI explains that unless we grant the relief requested, ITI will be unable to qualify for placement on the presubscription ballot that South Central Bell will send to certain premises owners. All regional Bell operating companies ("BOCs"), including BellSouth, have been ordered to mail presubscription ballots to premise owners on or before January 1, 1989, for the presubscription of BOC owned pay telephones. United

States of American v. Western Electric Company, Inc., No. 82-0192,
Slip Op. (D.D.C. October 14, 1988).

Responses to ITI's motion were filed by AmeriCall Systems of Louisville and South Central Bell. ITI has filed a response to the comments of both intervenors.

The Commission, having considered ITI's motion, the responses thereto, and being advised, is of the opinion that it would be inappropriate to grant ITI's motion. The Commission has committed considerable amounts of time considering ITI's application for general authority to provide interexchange services within Kentucky. In granting ITI's request for rehearing of our August 24, 1988 decision to deny ITI authority to operate within Kentucky, we explained that ITI would be given the opportunity to present new evidence and testimony on issues raised in its application for rehearing. ITI has filed substantial amounts of material in support of its position on rehearing, including a volume of proposed supplemental evidence filed on November 9, 1988. An informal conference was held on November 11, 1988 and we are in the process of establishing a procedural schedule. Although we understand ITI's desire to appear on the presubscription ballot issued by South Central Bell in Kentucky, we are not convinced that ITI's needs are so compelling as to convince us to grant ITI even "limited" authority, without having had the opportunity to thoroughly review the supplemental evidence and other information filed by ITI since our rehearing Order was granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the motion of ITI for interim authority be and it hereby is denied.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 23rd day of November, 1988.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Richard D. Weman, Jr.
Chairman

Robert M. Davis
Vice Chairman

Spencer N. Williams, Jr.
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director