

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION OF OPERATOR )  
SERVICE AS PROPOSED BY US SPRINT ) CASE NO. 10326  
COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY )

O R D E R

On June 16, 1988, US Sprint Communications Company ("US Sprint") filed a proposed revision to its tariff. The revision was extensive and covered the following issues: an increase in current ULTRA WATS Service rates; replacement of Stand-Alone Travelcard Service by Stand-Alone Foncard Service; and introduction of four new classes of service to the current US Sprint Operator Service offering -- "Third-Party Billing, Third-Party Billing via LEC Charge Card, Operator Assist LEC-DA, and Problem Assistance." These new operator services are presently offered under US Sprint's current interstate tariff, FCC No. 1.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed tariff revisions and has accepted those revisions to be effective on August 1, 1988 with the exception of Ky. Tariff PSC No. 2, Original Sheet 33.3, Section 5.1.4 US Sprint Operator Service. The Commission finds that additional investigation into the issues addressed in this revision will be necessary and cannot be thoroughly done prior to the proposed effective date. Specifically, the Commission is

concerned about US Sprint's proposal to offer "Third-Party Billing" via charge cards issued by Local Exchange Companies ("LECs"). The Commission assumes that such an offering of service would generate some traffic from end-users who are not US Sprint customers. The Commission is unaware of the ability of US Sprint to ensure that calls billed to LEC issued calling cards are properly validated. Such validation helps ensure that LEC customers will be protected from fraudulent third-party billing. Other issues may exist relating to third-party billing, e.g., third number billing to toll-restricted numbers.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

Original Sheet No. 33.3 of US Sprint's Ky. Tariff PSC No. 2 be hereby suspended on and after the date of this Order for a period not to exceed 5 months, that the Commission might have adequate time to thoroughly investigate all issues addressed therein.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of July, 1988.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
For the Commission

ATTEST:

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Executive Director