

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE TARIFF FILING OF MCI)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION TO) CASE NO. 89-046
OFFER OPERATOR ASSISTANCE)

INTERIM ORDER

On February 22, 1989, MCI Telecommunications Corporation ("MCI") filed a tariff for operator-assistance. By Order dated March 7, 1989 the Commission suspended the tariff for further investigation.

On October 14, 1988, U.S. District Judge Harold Greene entered an Opinion and Order in United States of America v. Western Electric Company, Inc. (Civil Action No. 82-0192) in which all regional Bell Operating Companies ("BOCs") were ordered to mail ballots to premises owners where BOC-provided pay telephones are located. The court-ordered ballot allows premises owners to choose an interexchange carrier to handle interLATA¹ operator-assisted traffic originating from these pay telephones. MCI is on the South Central Bell Telephone Company ballot and is one of numerous interexchange carriers that may be chosen to provide this service. MCI is required to receive Commission authorization prior to April 1, 1989 before it can provide the intrastate portion of the service.

¹ Local Access and Transport Area.

Due to the above-mentioned time constraints, the Commission will consider in this Order only the portion of MCI's application that seeks to allow it to provide operator-assisted service from BOC pay telephones.

The Commission, after considering the proposed tariff and being sufficiently advised, is of the opinion and finds that it will grant MCI authority to provide operator-assistance at this time, limited to BOC pay telephones, if it complies with the following conditions of service:

(1) Rates. The rates charged by MCI shall be equal to or less than the maximum approved rates for AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc., a dominant carrier. These rates should be contained in MCI's tariff.

(2) Validation of calling card calls. MCI shall only accept calls made by calling cards for which validation of the calling card numbers is available to MCI. Accordingly, unless MCI has the capability of validating a credit card, it shall not complete the call.

(3) Identification and customer confusion. MCI operators shall clearly identify the company's name to all end-users.


The Commission finds that MCI can furnish adequate, efficient, and reasonable service if the above-stated conditions of service are maintained. These mandatory conditions of service are the minimum required for the provision of operator-assisted service from a BOC pay telephone. MCI shall file a tariff conforming to these conditions for this limited service no later than April 1, 1989.

The Commission's Opinion and Order relating to the remaining authority requested in MCI's tariff, and including additional conditions of service, will follow shortly.


BE IT SO ORDERED.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 22nd day of March, 1989.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director