COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPROVAL OF THE RESALE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND EMPIRE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

CASE NO. 98-539

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<u>O R D E R</u>

On November 19, 1998, the Commission approved a resale agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) and Empire Communications, Inc. (Empire). On November 16, 1998, BellSouth and Empire submitted to the Commission an amendment to their resale agreement, the approval of which is pending. On December 11, 1998, BellSouth and Empire submitted to the Commission another amendment to their resale agreement. The agreement was negotiated pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act), 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 and 252. Section 252(e) of the 1996 Act requires the parties to an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation to submit the agreement for approval to the Commission.

The Commission has reviewed the amendments and finds that no portion of the amendments discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement. The Commission also finds that the implementation of these amendments is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission, having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that the amendments are approved.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 22nd day of January, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director