

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF E.SPIRE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)	
ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS OPERATION)	
SUBSIDIARIES, FOR ARBITRATION OF AN)	
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH BELLSOUTH)	CASE NO. 2000-034
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., PURSUANT TO)	
SECTION 252(b) OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT)	

O R D E R

This matter is before the Commission upon petition of e.spire Communications, Inc. ("e.spire") for arbitration of multiple issues with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") unless waived by the parties, the disputed issues must be resolved by May 17, 2000.

The Commission, having considered the petition, and the response thereto, and being otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. The hearing shall be scheduled for April 28, 2000 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. There shall be no opening statements, direct testimony, or summaries of direct testimony without special leave.
2. By April 10, 2000, the parties shall file their prefiled direct testimony.
3. By April 17, 2000, the parties shall file any rebuttal testimony. At hearing, testimony is limited to cross-examination or re-direct examination.

4. Parties shall file the original and twelve copies of all testimony. The original and at least three copies of the testimony shall be filed as follows:

- a. Together with cover letter listing each person presenting testimony.
- b. Bound in 3-ring binders or with any other fastener which readily opens and closes to facilitate easy copying.
- c. Each person's testimony should be tabbed.
- d. Every exhibit to each person's testimony should be appropriately marked.

5. Any agreed-upon portions of the parties' contracts shall be filed by April 19, 2000.

6. Each party shall submit, in contract form, its best and final offer on each disputed issue no later than April 19, 2000.

7. An informal conference is scheduled to be conducted on April 25, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Conference Room 1 in the Commission's offices at the address listed above.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of March, 2000.

By the Commission

ATTEST:


Executive Director