

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

INVESTIGATION OF THE FAILURE OF CERTAIN	)	
NON-DOMINANT TELECOMMUNICATIONS	)	CASE NO.
PROVIDERS TO FILE REPORTS OF GROSS	)	2000-383
OPERATING REVENUES OR TO PAY	)	
ASSESSMENTS PURSUANT TO KRS 278.140	)	

O R D E R

The Commission once again reopens this case for the purpose of considering the application of a carrier to resubmit its tariff and to provide telecommunications services within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

ConnectAmerica, Inc. ("ConnectAmerica") was among those carriers whose tariffs were removed from Commission files and whose names were stricken from the Commission's list of utilities authorized to provide service in Kentucky by Order dated August 10, 2000. The Order provided that certain utilities that had failed to comply with KRS 278.130 through KRS 278.150 should show cause why they should not be subject to penalties for such failure. The Order further provided that, in the absence of such showing made within 30 days, the utilities' authorization to provide service in Kentucky would be revoked without further Order. ConnectAmerica did not respond to the Order.

On November 27, 2001, ConnectAmerica submitted an application requesting reinstatement. ConnectAmerica has since hired a consultant to manage its regulatory obligations and states that it is now prepared to take seriously its responsibilities as a regulated utility and to comply with Kentucky law. ConnectAmerica also has submitted

a check in the amount of \$1,000 as settlement of unpaid assessment amounts and penalties for failure to respond to the Commission's Order in this case.

The Commission does not take lightly the failure of any regulated utility to comply with Kentucky law. It is particularly disturbing that ConnectAmerica did not respond to an Order fully informing it of its lack of compliance and the resulting imminent loss of its authorization to operate in Kentucky. However, the hiring of a regulatory consultant and the proffered offer of settlement indicate that ConnectAmerica will, in the future, comply with Kentucky law.

Accordingly, the Commission having been sufficiently advised, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. The offer of settlement of ConnectAmerica, Inc. is accepted.
2. ConnectAmerica, Inc. is authorized to provide service in Kentucky as of December 29, 2001, the effective date of its tariff.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2001.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

See 2000383\_120501apx.pdf for settlement agreement.