COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DANA BOWERS)
COMPLAINANT))) CASE NO.
V.	2010-00447
WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY EAST, LLC)
DEFENDANT)

ORDER

On April 8, 2011, the Commission issued an Order establishing a procedural schedule in the above-captioned case. The Order required, <u>inter alia</u>, the filing of discovery requests by April 29, 2011 and answers to those discovery requests to be filed by May 13, 2011.

On April 21, 2011, Windstream Kentucky East, LLC ("Windstream") filed with the Commission a motion to amend the procedural schedule by extending the filing deadlines in the procedural schedule by two weeks. As grounds for its motion, Windstream states that several of the due dates for filings conflict with procedural deadlines in a federal court action in the United States District Court for Western District of Kentucky.¹ Windstream asserts that it "anticipates the scope of the Commission and

¹ <u>Dana Bowers v. Windstream Kentucky East, LLC at al.</u>, Civil Action No. 3:09-CV-440 ("court action" or "judicial proceeding").

federal court proceedings will make it unduly burdensome for it to comply with all of the scheduling deadlines as presently constituted."²

Counsel for Dana Bowers filed a response to Windstream's motion as well as a cross-motion to abbreviate the procedural schedule. Ms. Bowers alleges that further delay of the proceeding will allow Windstream to continue to collect an unapproved rate from Ms. Bowers as well as other similarly situated customers. Ms. Bowers contends that the procedural schedule is already unnecessarily lengthy---much more in depth than is necessary to address the two issues that the District Court sent to the Commission for resolution. Ms. Bowers notes that the Commission's procedural schedule contains filing dates that continue past the District Court's discovery cut off date of August 1, 2011. Ms. Bowers asserts that the last day for dispositive motions in the federal action is September 12, 2011, which, Ms. Bowers notes, makes it impossible for the Commission to answer the questions sent to it by the District Court before the time for the filing of dispositive motions has passed. Ms. Bowers requests that the Commission shorten the procedural schedule by eliminating one round of discovery and the filing of rebuttal testimony. Ms. Bowers contends that this will prevent the federal action from being delayed by the District Court's referral of the issues to the Commission. In the alternative, Ms. Bowers requests that, if the Commission grants Windstream's motion for an enlargement of time, the Commission shorten the remaining procedural schedule by two weeks.

The Commission finds that Windstream has provided good cause to extend the filing deadline by two weeks. The Commission also finds that Ms. Bowers has provided

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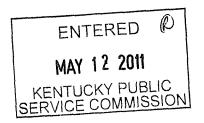
² Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule at 2.

sufficient cause to shorten the remaining discovery period by removing supplemental data requests. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Windstream's motion is granted.
- 2. Ms. Bower's motion is denied in part and granted in part.

3. The parties shall follow the schedule attached as Appendix A to this Order.

By the Commission



ve Director

Case No. 2010-00447

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2010-00447 DATED MAY 12 2011

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Parties Shall File and Serve Discovery Requests	May 12, 2011
no later than	Way 13, 2011
Answers to Discovery Requests to be filed	May 27, 2011
Simultaneous Prefiled Direct Testimony to be filed	June 10, 2011
Simultaneous Prefiled Rebuttal Testimony to be filed	June 24, 2011
Request for hearing, if any, to be filed	July 1, 2011
Simultaneous Initial Briefs to be filed	14 days after video transcript is available, if a hearing is granted, other- wise due July 22, 2011
Simultaneous Post-Hearing Reply Briefs to be filed	s after receipt of initial briefs

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