

Larry D. Callison
State Manager
Regulatory Affairs & Tariffs



**GTE Service
Corporation**

P.O. Box 1650
Lexington, KY. 40588-1650
859 245-1389
Fax: 859 245-1721

July 25, 2000

Mr. Martin Huelsmann
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Bldv.
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

00120-AI

RECEIVED

JUL 25 2000

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

RE: 252(i) Adoption Letter Between GTE South Incorporated and
Avana Communications Corp.

Dear Mr. Huelsmann:

Enclosed for joint filing by the parties with the Kentucky Public Service Commission (Commission) are six copies of an executed 252(i) Adoption Letter recently executed between GTE South Incorporated and Avana Communications Corp., adopting the terms of the arbitrated Interconnection, Resale, and Unbundling agreement between AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc., and GTE South Incorporated. That agreement was approved by the Commission in Case Number 96-478.

Also enclosed is an electronic copy of the Adoption Letter in Microsoft Word 97 format on a 3.5 floppy diskette.

Please bring this filing to the attention of the Commission, and if there are any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry D. Callison".

Larry D. Callison

Enclosures

c: Ms. Sharon Quaintance – Avana Communications Corp.

Connie Nicholas
Assistant Vice President
Wholesale Markets-Interconnection



**GTE Network
Services**

HQE03B28
600 Hidden Ridge
P.O. Box 152092
Irving, TX 75038
972/718-4586
FAX 972/719-1523

June 15, 2000

Ms. Sharon Quaintance
Vice President - Operations
Avana Communications Corp.
1690 Chantilly Drive
Atlanta, GA 30324

Dear Ms. Quaintance:

GTE has received your letter stating that, under Section 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"), Avana Communications Corp. ("Avana") wishes to adopt the terms of the arbitrated Interconnection Agreement between AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc. ("AT&T") and GTE that was approved by the Commission as an effective agreement in the State of Kentucky in Docket No. 96-478 (the "Terms")¹. I understand you have a copy of the Terms. Please note the following with respect to your adoption of the Terms.

1. By your countersignature on this letter, you hereby represent and commit to the following three points:
 - (A) Avana adopts the Terms of the AT&T arbitrated agreement for interconnection with GTE and in applying the Terms, agrees that Avana shall be substituted in place of AT&T in the Terms wherever appropriate.
 - (B) Avana requests that notice to Avana as may be required under the Terms shall be provided as follows:

To : Avana Communications Corp.
Attention: Ms. Sharon Quaintance
Vice President - Operations
1690 Chantilly Drive
Atlanta, GA 30324
Telephone number: 678/222-3005
FAX number: 678/222-3035

¹ These "agreements" are not agreements in the generally accepted understanding of that term. GTE was required to accept these agreements, which were required to reflect then-effective FCC rules and other applicable law.

Ms. Sharon Quaintance

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- (C) Avana represents and warrants that it is a certified provider of local telecommunications service in the State of Kentucky, and that its adoption of the Terms will cover services in the State of Kentucky only.
2. Avana's adoption of the AT&T arbitrated Terms shall become effective upon GTE's filing of this letter with the Kentucky Public Service Commission and remain in effect no longer than the date the AT&T arbitrated Terms are terminated. The AT&T arbitrated agreement is currently scheduled to expire on August 9, 2002.
 3. As the Terms are being adopted by you pursuant to your statutory rights under section 252(i), GTE does not provide the Terms to you as either a voluntary or negotiated agreement. The filing and performance by GTE of the Terms does not in any way constitute a waiver by GTE of its position as to the illegality or unreasonableness of the Terms or a portion thereof, nor does it constitute a waiver by GTE of all rights and remedies it may have to seek review of the Terms, or to petition the Commission, other administrative body, or court for reconsideration or reversal of any determination made by the Commission pursuant to arbitration in Docket No. 96-478, or to seek review in any way of any provisions included in these Terms as a result of Avana's 252(i) election.
 4. On January 25, 1999, the Supreme Court of the United States ("Court") issued its decision on the appeals of the Eighth Circuit's decision in *Iowa Utilities Board*. Specifically, the Supreme Court modified several of the FCC's and the Eighth Circuit's rulings regarding unbundled network elements and pricing requirements under the Act. *AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Utilities Board*, No. 97-826, 1999 U.S. LEXIS 903 (1999). Certain provisions of the Terms may be void or unenforceable as a result of the Court's decision of January 25, 1999 and the remand of the pricing rules to the United States Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Moreover, nothing herein shall be construed as or is intended to be a concession or admission by either GTE or Avana that any contractual provision required by the Commission in Docket No. 96-478 (the AT&T arbitration) or any provision in the Terms complies with the rights and duties imposed by the Act, the decision of the FCC and the Commissions, the decisions of the courts, or other law, and both GTE and Avana expressly reserve their full right to assert and pursue claims arising from or related to the Terms.
 5. GTE reserves the right to deny Avana's adoption and/or application of the Terms, in whole or in part, at any time:
 - (a) when the costs of providing the Terms to Avana are greater than the costs of providing it to AT&T;

Ms. Sharon Quaintance

June 15, 2000

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- (b) if the provision of the Terms to Avana is not technically feasible; and/or
 - (c) to the extent Avana already has an existing interconnection agreement (or existing 252(i) adoption) with GTE and the Terms were approved before the date of approval of the existing interconnection agreement (or the effective date of the existing 252(i) adoption).
6. The provisions of the Terms that might be interpreted to characterize traffic destined for Internet as local traffic or requiring the payment of reciprocal compensation are not available for adoption. As noted above, pursuant to Rule 809, the FCC gave ILECs the ability to deny 252(i) adoptions in those instances where the cost of providing the service to the requesting carrier is higher than that incurred to serve the initial carrier or there is a technical incompatibility issue. The issue of reciprocal compensation for traffic destined for the Internet falls within this exception. GTE never intended for Internet traffic passing through a telecommunications carrier to be included within the definition of local traffic and subject to the corresponding obligation of reciprocal compensation. Despite the foregoing, some forums have required reciprocal compensation to be paid. This produces the situation where the cost of providing the service is not cost based.
7. Should Avana attempt to apply the Terms in a manner that conflicts with paragraphs 3-6 above, GTE reserves its rights to seek appropriate legal and/or equitable relief.

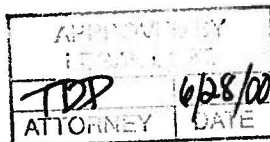
Please sign this letter on the space provided below and return it to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

GTE South Incorporated



Steven J. Pittlerle
Director-Negotiations
Wholesale Markets



Reviewed and countersigned as to points A, B, and C of paragraph 1:

Avana Communications Corp.

(SIGNATURE)

(PRINT NAME)

c: R. Ragsdale - GTE



June 21, 2000

Connie Nicholas
Assistant Vice President
Wholesale Markets – Interconnection
GTE Network Services
600 Hidden Ridge
P.O. Box 152092
Irving, Texas 75038
HQE03B28

Re: Avana Communications

Dear Ms. Nicholas:

Avana Communications ("Avana") hereby adopts the GTE/AT&T Kentucky interconnection agreement in accordance with § 252(l) of the Telecommunications Act.

Pursuant to its rights, it is the express intent of Avana to establish contractual terms and conditions for the provision of interconnection services whereby GTE does not distinguish its treatment of Avana from the terms and conditions under which GTE provides interconnection services to AT&T. Accordingly, Avana neither accepts nor acknowledges any deviations from the existing GTE/AT&T interconnection agreement other than those ministerial changes necessary to document that the same terms are applicable to the provision of interconnection to Avana.

In order to deploy its services, Avana anticipates that it may have requirements to utilize GTE resale services as soon as July 15, 2000. To ensure that there is no unnecessary delay in the provision of services by GTE, please provide written documentation that GTE will provide services to Avana in accordance with the terms and conditions of the AT&T/GTE Agreement, including all amendments. In addition, please provide written documentation that GTE will file for approval of this interconnection agreement with the Kentucky Commission by July 1, 2000.

Please direct your response to me on my direct line (678-222-3005) or at the listed below. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sharon S. Quaintance /cl'.

Sharon S. Quaintance
Vice President - Operations