

AUG 1 2006

## STOLL·KEENON·OGDEN PUBLIC SERVICE PLLC

COMMISSION

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August 1, 2006

Elizabeth O'Donnell Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

RE: Case No. 2006-00340

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

Enclosed please find an original and ten copies of Cinergy Communications Company's Motion to Dismiss in the above referenced case.

Please indicate receipt of this filing by your office by placing your file stamp on the extra copy and returning to me via the enclosed, self-addressed stamped envelope.

Very truly yours,

STOLL KEENON OGDEN PLLC

# RECEIVED

#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

AUG 1 2006

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

BRANDENBURG TELECOM LLC	)
COMPLAINANT	) ) ) CASE NO. 2006-00340
V.	)
CINERGY COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY	)
DEFENDANT	)

#### **MOTION TO DISMISS**

Cinergy Communications Company ("Cinergy"), by its undersigned counsel, hereby moves the Commission to dismiss Brandenburg Telecom LLC's ("Brandenburg Telecom") complaint, for the reasons set forth below.

- 1. Brandenburg Telecom's complaint is styled as an action under KRS 278.260. In reality, it is an action to collect money for services Brandenburg Telecom alleges it has provided under its access tariffs. To put it simply, Brandenburg Telecom is asking the Commission to become its collection agent. However, neither KRS 278.260 nor any other section of Chapter 278 gives the Commission jurisdiction to adjudicate a complaint by a utility against a customer, as the Commission has properly held. In the Matter of the Tariffs of Kentucky Power Co., 2000 Ky. PUC LEXIS 1337 (2000), infra. Instead, KRS 278.260 gives the Commission authority to investigate and remedy customer "complaints as to rates or service of any utility." See Complaint, ¶ 5 (emphasis added). But Brandenburg Telecom offers no complaint about Cinergy's rates or service. Cinergy is not providing service to Brandenburg Telecom.
  - 2. The Commission does not have a basis to hear a complaint by a utility against its

customer. In Case No. 2000-062, a case involving a customer billing dispute over tariffed

charges, the Commission denied an electric utility's request that it force a customer to pay

amounts allegedly due under tariff, finding: "[n]o provision of KRS Chapter 278 extends the

Commission's jurisdiction to a customer of a utility or otherwise empowers the Commission to

direct a customer to take, or refrain from taking, any action." Kentucky Power, 2000 Ky. PUC

LEXIS 1337 (2000).

3. In similar disputes involve billing for interstate service, the FCC has determined

that it "does not act as a collection agent for carriers with respect to unpaid tariffed charges. . ."

U.S. Telepacific Corp. v. Tel-America of Salt Lake City, 19 FCC Rcd. 24552 (2004). No one can

reasonably dispute that the FCC has no authority under the Communications Act to conduct

adjudications of carrier's rights against their customers. See Id., n. 26. Brandenburg Telecom is

simply shopping for a forum since it could not possibly file this complaint with the FCC.

Wherefore, Cinergy respectfully requests that the Commission dismiss this complaint and

grant all other relief to which Cinergy may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas S. Bentys.

E. Kent Platfield

Douglas F. Brent

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COUNSEL FOR CINERGY COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing was served all parties in this case this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2006.

ouglas F. Brent

Edward T. Depp (by hand) Dinsmore & Shohl 1400 PNC Plaza 500 West Jefferson Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202

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