

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF ECONOPHONE, INC. FOR A)
CERTIFICATE TO RESELL TELECOMMUNICATIONS) CASE NO. 96-273
SERVICE)

O R D E R

On June 12, 1996, Econophone, Inc. ("Econophone") filed its application with the Commission seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide intrastate, long-distance telecommunications services as a reseller within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Econophone is a New York corporation proposing to resell the services of carriers currently certified within the Commonwealth of Kentucky in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in its tariff. Econophone does not seek authority to provide operator-assisted telecommunications services.

Econophone employs no intrastate transmission or reception telecommunications equipment or facilities in the performance of its services, and all intrastate facilities, equipment, and networking will be provided by the underlying carrier. Econophone will not construct any new facilities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The information provided by Econophone demonstrates its financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide intrastate, long-distance telecommunications service. The proposed rates filed June 12, 1996, should be approved as the fair, just and reasonable rates to be charged, with the following revisions:

1. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:006, Section 6(3), include a copy of Econophone's bill format, or its contents, in the proposed tariff.

2. Refer to Original Sheet 19, Section 2.10.1. Rewrite, in conformity with 807 KAR 5:006, Section 8(3)(h), to provide that a late payment penalty may be assessed only once on any bill for rendered service.

In Administrative Case No. 306,¹ the Commission stated the importance of eliminating possible customer confusion arising from the name of the billing service, rather than the name of the provider of telecommunications services, appearing on the bill. Accordingly, Econophone should ensure that its name appears prominently on all bills issued to customers for services rendered by it.

The Commission, having considered the application, the information provided by Econophone, and being otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. Econophone be and it hereby is granted authority to provide intrastate, long-distance telecommunications services within the Commonwealth of Kentucky on and after the date of this Order.

2. Econophone shall comply with the provisions of the Orders in Administrative Case No. 323.²

3. Econophone shall ensure that its name appears prominently on all bills issued to customers for services rendered by it.

¹ Administrative Case No. 306, Detariffing Billing and Collection Services, Order dated April 30, 1990.

² Administrative Case No. 323, An Inquiry Into IntraLATA Toll Competition, An Appropriate Compensation Scheme for Completion of IntraLATA Calls by Interexchange Carriers, and WATS Jurisdictionality.

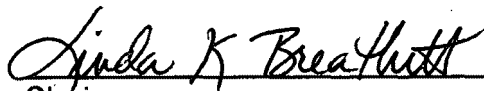
4. Econophone's authority to provide service in this Commonwealth is strictly limited to those services described in this Order and in Econophone's application.

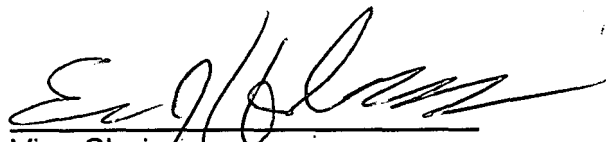
5. The rates and charges proposed by Econophone are hereby approved as filed on June 12, 1996, with the above mentioned revisions.

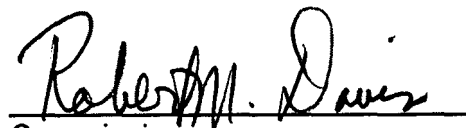
6. Within 30 days from the date of this Order, Econophone shall file its tariff sheets in accordance with 807 KAR 5:011.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 12th day of July, 1996.

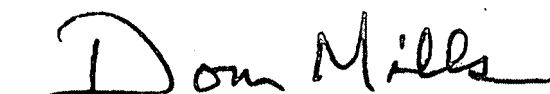
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director