

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION BY MCI FOR ARBITRATION OF)
CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF A)
PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH GTE)
SOUTH INCORPORATED CONCERNING) CASE NO. 96-440
INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE UNDER)
THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT)
OF 1996)

PETITION BY AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES, INC., AND ITS LOCAL EXCHANGE)
OPERATING SUBSIDIARIES, FOR ARBITRATION)
WITH GTE SOUTH, INC. AND CONTEL OF) CASE NO. 96-467
KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO THE TELE-)
COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)

PETITION BY AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE)
SOUTH CENTRAL STATES, INC. FOR)
ARBITRATION OF CERTAIN TERMS AND)
CONDITIONS OF A PROPOSED AGREEMENT)
WITH GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED) CASE NO. 96-478
CONCERNING INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE)
UNDER THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT)
OF 1996)

O R D E R

It appears that the parties hereto remain unable to reach protective agreements so that all parties may attend the informal conference scheduled to discuss the cost studies filed by GTE South Incorporated ("GTE South") which are relevant to these proceedings. Furthermore, it appears that meaningful participation in these proceedings will be denied to parties who are denied access to the cost studies for which confidentiality is claimed.

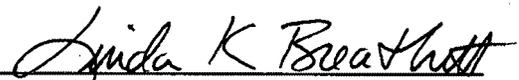
807 KAR 5:001, Section 7(5)(b).

As the parties are well aware, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 imposes strict time constraints upon these proceedings. It also requires the parties to negotiate in good faith. The Commission should not be required to referee each and every disagreement that arises among the parties. However, scheduling difficulties mandate that this conference take place today if at all possible.

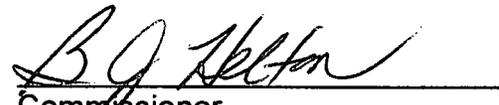
Time being of the essence, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the parties hereto shall appear before the Commission at 11:30 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in Hearing Room 2 of the Commission's Offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky, to explain their respective positions regarding any continuing inability to reach a protective agreement regarding the cost studies at issue.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 17th day of October, 1996.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director