COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

SALEM TELEPHONE COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF INFORMATION FILED IN SUPPORT OF ITS TARIFF REVISIONS

CASE NO. 96-464

<u>ORDER</u>

This matter arising upon request of Salem Telephone Company ("Salem Telephone"), filed September 25, 1996, for confidential protection of the cost support information filed in support of its tariff revisions and it appearing to this Commission as follows:

Salem Telephone has filed revisions to its tariffs which add Centrex Service to its service offerings. In support of the revisions, Salem Telephone has filed cost support information which it requests to be considered as confidential.

KRS 61.872(1) requires information filed with the Commission to be available for public inspection unless specifically exempted by statute. Exemptions from this requirement are provided in KRS 61.878(1). The procedure for obtaining confidential protection of information filed with the Commission is provided in regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7. Included is a requirement that persons seeking confidential protection file a petition with the Commission setting forth the grounds relied upon under the statute. Additionally, the Commission requires that the petition clearly demonstrate that the information is entitled to protection under those grounds. The petition filed by Salem

Telephone does not satisfy the requirements of the regulation. Therefore, the information cannot be protected as confidential.

This Commission being otherwise advised,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The petition to protect as confidential the cost information filed in support of the tariff revisions by Salem Telephone is hereby denied.

2. The information sought to be protected shall be held and retained by this Commission as confidential and shall not be open for public inspection for a period of 20 days from the date of this Order to allow Salem Telephone an opportunity to file a petition in accordance with the regulation.

If at the expiration of the 20-day period no petition has been filed, the 3. information shall be placed in the public record without further Orders herein.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 10th day of October, 1996.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

K Breathott

ATTEST:

1:00

Executive Director