

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF TCG OHIO FOR A CERTIFICATE)
OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO) CASE NO. 97-179
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE)

O R D E R

On May 27, 1997, TCG Ohio ("TCG") filed an application requesting authorization to provide intrastate telecommunications service. TCG is a New York Partnership with its principal offices in Staten Island, New York.

TCG seeks authority to provide switched, dedicated, and resold local exchange telecommunications services. TCG also requests the authority to provide intrastate long-distance service.

TCG intends to provide facilities-based business and residential exchange and access service in Kentucky. It plans to install a fiber optic system providing state of the art switched and private line local exchange and access service. To expand its network, TCG will either build an infrastructure or lease cable facilities or services from incumbent local exchange carriers. TCG must file the interconnection agreements with the Commission for approval prior to commencing the agreed upon services.

In addition, TCG intends to provide unbundled and resale telecommunications services in Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company and BellSouth Telecommunication, Inc. ("BellSouth") service areas.

TCG has established an escrow account to support its future Universal Service Fund obligations and states it will deposit therein 6 percent of the estimated gross receipts to be received from its provision of intrastate telecommunications services, net of payments to other carriers. TCG also has submitted, in this docket, its interconnection agreement with BellSouth. The Commission has received the agreement and finds that no portion of it discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not party to it. The Commission also finds that implementation of the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Accordingly, the agreement should be approved.

The information provided in TCG's application and exhibits thereto demonstrate its financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide utility service. The Commission finds that TCG should be authorized to provide intrastate telecommunications services within the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as described in this Order and its application.

The Commission, having considered the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. TCG is granted authority to provide local resold and unbundled intrastate telecommunications services within the Commonwealth of Kentucky on and after the date of this Order.
2. TCG is authorized to provide private line and facilities-based service within the Commonwealth of Kentucky on and after the date of this Order.
3. TCG is granted authority to provide intrastate, long-distance telecommunications services within the Commonwealth of Kentucky on and after the date of this Order.

4. TCG must file applicable interconnection agreements with the Commission for approval prior to commencing the agreed upon services.

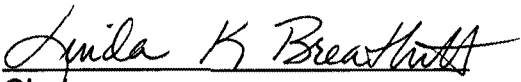
5. Within 30 days from the date of this Order, TCG shall file its Kentucky tariff pursuant to 807 KAR 5:011.

6. TCG shall comply with the monitoring requirements set forth in Administrative Case No. 355.¹


7. The interconnection agreement between BellSouth and TCG is approved.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 21st day of August, 1997.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director

¹ Administrative Case No. 355, An Inquiry into Local Competition, Universal Service, and the Non-Traffic Sensitive Access Rate, Order dated September 26, 1996.