

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPROVAL OF THE )  
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT )  
NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND ) CASE NO. 98-553  
TOUCHTONE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )  
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND )  
252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS )  
ACT OF 1996 )

O R D E R

On October 29, 1998, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and Touchtone Communications, Inc. ("Touchtone") submitted to the Commission their negotiated agreement for interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements, and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services. The agreement was negotiated pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act"), 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 and 252. Section 252(e) of the 1996 Act requires the parties to an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation to submit the agreement for approval to the Commission.

The Commission has reviewed the agreement and finds that no portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement. The Commission also finds that the implementation of this agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

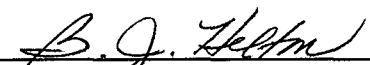
Touchtone must comply with all relevant Commission mandates for serving in this Commonwealth.

The Commission, having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS  
that:


1. The negotiated agreement between BellSouth and Touchtone is approved.
2. Touchtone shall file a tariff for local service prior to providing local service giving 30 days' notice to the Commission and shall comply with all Commission regulations and orders as directed.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 10th day of December, 1998.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Chairman

  
Vice Chairman

  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director