

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE)
PROCEEDING TO EXAMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH) ADMINISTRATIVE
JURISDICTIONAL UTILITIES ARE PREPARED FOR) CASE NO. 376
THE YEAR 2000)

ORDER

On May 24, 1999, GTE Corporation (GTE) requested that the Commission adopt a state-wide telecommunications infrastructure stabilization period just before, during, and immediately following the Year 2000 transition. A copy of GTE s request is appended hereto. The Commission will consider GTE s request as a motion.

Having carefully considered the motion, the Commission finds that it should be denied. While it refers to any government-required introduction of new computer code or network components in its motion, GTE has failed to identify any specific directive or program that would disrupt its efforts or demand a quiet period. No other telecommunications utility has requested such relief or suggested that such relief is necessary. In the absence of a clear need for such relief, we will not direct a freeze upon non-emergency modifications to any telecommunications utility s network.

The Commission recognizes that utilities may experience operational difficulties during the critical transition period. Should any directive of this Commission significantly impede a utility s ability to maintain service during the millenium transition, the affected utility may request relief from that directive. Such a request must clearly identify the directive and the disruptive effects that it poses. While the Commission will carefully

consider such requests, we continue to expect all utilities to take prudent and responsible steps to ensure a smooth Year 2000 transition.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. GTE's motion for the adoption of a state-wide telecommunications infrastructure stabilization period just before, during, and immediately following the Year 2000 transition is denied.

2. Any request for deferral or delay in the implementation of any Commission directive on the grounds that such implementation will significantly disrupt a utility's efforts to assure continuity of service during the millennium transition shall clearly identify the directive from which relief is sought and the disruptive effect that the directive presents.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 18th day of August, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director