COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND CONVERGENCE, INC. PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

CASE NO. 99-246

On June 16, 1999, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) and Convergence, Inc. (Convergence) submitted to the Commission their negotiated agreement for interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements, and the resale of BellSouth's services. On August 6, 1999, BellSouth and Convergence submitted to the Commission an amendment to their interconnection agreement. 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 amendment and finds that no portion thereof discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement. The Commission also finds that the implementation of the agreement and amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Convergence 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 and amendment between BellSouth and Convergence are approved.

2. Convergence 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 9th day of September, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director