

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPROVAL OF THE)	
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)	
NEGOTIATED BY GTE SOUTH)	
INCORPORATED AND TOUCHTONE)	CASE NO. 99-318
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. PURSUANT)	
TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)	

O R D E R

On July 27, 1999, GTE South Incorporated (GTE) 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 GTE's 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 GTE 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 26th day of August, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director