

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
July 14, 2000**

CASE NO: TO-2000-684

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
**New Edge Networks, Inc. d/b/a New Edge
Networks**
3000 Columbia House Blvd., Suite 106
Vancouver, WA 98661

Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Approval of Interconnection Agreement with New) Case No. TO-2000-684

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

to participate or requests for hearing were filed.

Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989). Since

no one has asked permission to participate or requested a hearing, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the verified application.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum on June 22, 2000, recommending that the Agreement be approved.

Discussion

The Commission, under the provisions of Section 252(e) of the Act, has authority to approve an interconnection agreement negotiated between an incumbent local exchange company and a new provider of basic local exchange service. The Commission may reject an interconnection agreement only if the agreement is discriminatory or is inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

The Staff memorandum recommends that the Agreement be approved, and notes that the Agreement meets the limited requirements of the Act in that it does not appear to be discriminatory toward nonparties, and does not appear to be against the public interest. Staff recommends that the Commission direct the parties to submit any further modifications or amendments to the Commission for approval.

Findings of Fact

The Missouri Public Service Commission, having considered all of the competent and substantial evidence upon the whole record, makes the following findings of fact.

The Commission has considered the application, the supporting documentation, and Staff's recommendation. Based upon that review, the

Commission has reached the conclusion that the Agreement meets the requirements of the Act in that it does not unduly discriminate against a nonparty carrier, and implementation of the Agreement is not inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. The Commission finds that approval of the Agreement should be conditioned upon the parties submitting any modifications or amendments to the Commission for approval pursuant to the procedure set out below.

Modification Procedure

The Commission has a duty to review all resale and interconnection agreements, whether arrived at through negotiation or arbitration, as mandated by the Act. 47 U.S.C. § 252. In order for the Commission's role of review and approval to be effective, the Commission must also review and approve modifications to these agreements. The Commission has a further duty to make a copy of every resale and interconnection agreement available for public inspection. 47 U.S.C. § 252(h). This duty is in keeping with the Commission's practice under its own rules of requiring telecommunications companies to keep their rate schedules on file with the Commission. 4 CSR 240-30.010.

The parties to each resale or interconnection agreement must maintain a complete and current copy of the agreement, together with all modifications, in the Commission's offices. Any proposed modification must be submitted for Commission approval, whether the modification arises through negotiation, arbitration, or by means of alternative dispute resolution procedures.

The parties shall provide the Telecommunications Staff with a copy of the resale or interconnection agreement with the pages numbered consecutively in the lower right-hand corner. Modifications to an agreement must be submitted to the Staff for review. When approved, the modified pages will be substituted in the agreement, which should contain the number of the page being replaced in the lower right-hand corner. Staff will date-stamp the pages when they are inserted into the Agreement. The official record of the original agreement and all the modifications made will be maintained by the Telecommunications Staff in the Commission's tariff room.

The Commission does not intend to conduct a full proceeding each time the parties agree to a modification. Where a proposed modification is identical to a provision that has been approved by the Commission in another agreement, the modification will be approved once Staff has verified that the provision is an approved provision, and prepared a recommendation advising approval. Where a proposed modification is not contained in another approved agreement, Staff will review the modification and its effects, and prepare a recommendation advising the Commission whether the modification should be approved. The Commission may approve the modification based on the Staff recommendation. If the Commission chooses not to approve the modification, the Commission will establish a case, give notice to interested parties and permit responses. The Commission may conduct a hearing if it is deemed necessary.

Conclusions of Law

The Missouri Public Service Commission has arrived at the following conclusions of law.

The Commission, under the provisions of Section 252(e)(1) of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. 252(e)(1), is required to review negotiated interconnection agreements. It may only reject a negotiated agreement upon a finding that its implementation would be discriminatory to a nonparty or inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity under Section 252(e)(2)(A). Based upon its review of the Agreement between GTE and New Edge and its findings of fact, the Commission concludes that the Agreement is neither discriminatory nor inconsistent with the public interest and should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the interconnection agreement between GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated and New Edge Networks, Inc., d/b/a New Edge Networks, filed on April 26, 2000, is approved.

2. That the parties shall file an executed copy of this Agreement with the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, with the pages numbered seriatim at the bottom of the pages, no later than August 14, 2000. On the same date, the parties shall file a notice in the official case file advising the Commission that the Agreement has been submitted to Staff as required.

3. That any changes or modifications to this Agreement shall be filed with the Commission for approval pursuant to the procedure outlined in this order.

4. That this order shall become effective on July 25, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(S E A L)

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 14th day of July, 2000.

FYI: To Be ()ed By Delegation

AL/Sec'y: Thompson (Don't know) / Pope

7-13
Date Circulated

7-18
Return by 3 p.m.
10 am

TO-2000-684
CASE NO.

OK

SL
Lumpe, Chair

md
Drainer, Vice Chair

GM
Murray, Commissioner

KS
Scheffner, Commissioner

KS
Simmons, Commissioner

**STATE OF MISSOURI
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 14th day of July 2000.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge