

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATIONS OF
AT&T OHIO FOR REVIEW AND
APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS PURSUANT
TO SECTION 252 OF THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996.

CASE NO. 20-147-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-148-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-149-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-150-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-151-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-152-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-153-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-154-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-155-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-156-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-157-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-159-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-160-TP-NAG
CASE NO. 20-161-TP-NAG

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on May 6, 2020

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the applications in the above-captioned proceedings for interconnection agreement amendments.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} R.C. 4927.04 provides that the Commission has the authority to approve agreements under the “Telecommunications Act of 1996,” 110 Stat. 56, 47 U.S.C. 252, as amended.

{¶ 3} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7-07(D)(2) provides that all amendments to negotiated interconnection agreement amendments shall be approved pursuant to the 90-day process set forth in 47 U.S.C. 252(e)(4).

{¶ 4} Applications were filed by AT&T Ohio on January 24, 2020, in the above-captioned proceedings for approval of interconnection agreement amendments.

{¶ 5} On March 9, 2020, the governor signed Executive Order 2020-01D (Executive Order), declaring a state of emergency in Ohio to protect the well-being of Ohioans from the

dangerous effects of COVID-19. As described in the Executive Order, state agencies are required to implement procedures consistent with recommendations from the Department of Health to prevent or alleviate the public health threat associated with COVID-19. Additionally, all citizens are urged to heed the advice of the Department of Health regarding this public health emergency in order to protect their health and safety. The Executive Order was effective immediately and will remain in effect until the COVID-19 emergency no longer exists.

{¶ 6} On March 16, 2020, an attorney examiner issued an Entry in Case No. 20-591-AU-UNC, directing that any time period prescribed by order, statute, or rule for the Commission to act upon a pending application or other filing should be tolled during the state of emergency and also during the 14 days thereafter, including the 30-day automatic approval process for certification applications to operate as a telephone company in the state of Ohio, as well as the 90-day period for the Commission to take action to approve or deny a suspended application. Further, the attorney examiner indicated that, during the declared emergency, Staff would continue to investigate pending applications and the Commission would act on such applications on a case-by-case basis. *In re the Proper Procedures and Process for the Commission's Operations and Proceedings during the Declared State of Emergency and Related Matters*, Case No. 20-591-AU-UNC, Entry (Mar. 16, 2020) at ¶ 5.

{¶ 7} The applications filed in the above-captioned proceedings were, thus, subject to the March 16, 2020 Entry and suspended from automatic approval during the state of emergency.

{¶ 8} Upon further review, the Commission approves the applications to amend the interconnection agreements in the above captioned cases.

III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the applications filed in the above-captioned cases be approved. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Sam Randazzo, Chairman
M. Beth Trombold
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Daniel R. Conway
Dennis P. Deters

JSA/kck

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in

Case No(s). 20-0147-TP-NAG, 20-0148-TP-NAG, 20-0149-TP-NAG, 20-0150-TP-NAG, 20-0151-TP-NAG

Summary: Finding & Order approving the applications in the above-captioned proceedings for interconnection agreement amendments electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio