BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ameritech Ohio (Formerly Known as The Ohio Bell Telephone Company) for Approval of an Alternative Form of Regulation.	))))	Case No. 93-487-TP-ALT

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

(1) By Opinion and Order issued on April 27, 2000, the Commission approved a stipulation and recommendation dated March 28, 2000, that, among other things, extended and modified the alternative regulation plan entered into by Ameritech Ohio (Ameritech). One aspect of the extended alternative regulation plan was an obligation to provide up to $50,000 in 2001 towards an internet accessibility pilot program for senior citizens. Prior to soliciting proposals and prior to selecting the winning entity or entities to receive this funding, Ameritech agreed to consult with the Commission's staff, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), and any consumer group signing the stipulation and recommendation.

(2) On December 13, 2001, Ameritech filed a motion seeking an extension of time and an expedited ruling. In support of its request for an extension of time, Ameritech avers that a committee comprised of Commission staff, OCC, and the consumer groups that signed the stipulation and recommendation is in the process of reviewing the grant applications that were filed. Ameritech further submits that while the committee expected to have sufficient time to complete its work by the end of 2001, the large number of grant applications will require additional time to review. Therefore, Ameritech is seeking a brief extension of time of 30 days in order to permit the committee to thoroughly review the grant applications and to permit the company to make the grant awards. Ameritech maintains that all of the parties signing the March 28, 2000 stipulation and recommendation have been contacted and those parties either support or do not object to the request for an extension of time.[1]

(3) In support of its request for an expedited ruling, Ameritech claims that the December 31, 2001 deadline will not allow for the conclusion of the ordinary pleading cycle under the Commission's rules and given the Commission's meeting

[1] Commission staff formally docketed a letter on December 14, 2001, supporting the request for an extension of time.

schedule for the remainder of 2001. Therefore, Ameritech seeks an expedited ruling under Rule 4901-1-12(C), Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.).

(4) The Commission finds that an expedited ruling is warranted under Rule 4901-1-12(C), O.A.C., insofar as the issuance of such a ruling will not adversely affect a substantial right of any party. Furthermore, Ameritech's request for 30-day extension of time is well-made and shall, therefore, be granted.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Ameritech's motion for an expedited ruling and for an extension of time is granted in accordance with finding 4. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon each party and interested person of record in Case No. 93-487-TP-ALT.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

Ronda Hartman Fergus

Judith A. Jones

Donald L. Mason

Clarence D. Rogers, Jr.

JRJ/vrm

Entered in the Journal

DEC 20 2001

A True Copy

Gary E. Vigorito

Secretary