

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Commission)
Investigation Relative to the Establishment) Case No. 07-464-TP-COI
of Intrastate Access Charges.)

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) On January 16, 2007, United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a Embarq (Embarq) and Arthur Mutual Telephone Company, Ayersville Telephone Company, Buckland Telephone Company, Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Fort Jennings Telephone Company, Glandorf Telephone Company, Inc., Kalida Telephone Company, Inc., Middle Point Home Telephone Company, Ottoville Mutual Telephone Company, Ridgeville Telephone Company and Vaughnsville Telephone Company (Secondary Carriers) (Embarq and the Secondary Carriers are Joint Applicants) filed a joint application seeking a waiver of the requirement set forth in the Commission's December 29, 1987 Entry in which the Commission approved the Originating Responsibility Plan-Secondary Carriers Option (ORP-SCO) Plan. Among other things, the ORP-SCO Plan provided, with respect to intrastate intraLATA private line and foreign exchange (FX) services, a transition to a single bill/multiple tariff billing methodology.
- (2) Also on January 16, 2007, the Joint Applicants filed an application in Case No. 07-33-TP-UNC, approved by Commission finding and order on January 31, 2007, proposing to terminate the Primary Exchange Carrier/Secondary Exchange Carrier (PEC/SEC) relationship and for Embarq to withdraw as a primary exchange carrier in the exchanges served by the Secondary Carriers. The termination of the PEC/SEC relationship will be effective on March 5, 2007.
- (3) The single bill/multiple tariff (SB/MT) concept allows end-user customers of jointly provided private line and FX services to receive a single bill from the local exchange carrier (LEC) which negotiated the order. Customer bills include the charges for each participating LEC based upon each company's respective portion of the jointly provided circuit priced at each

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.

Technician C N Date Processed 2/14/07

company's respective private line rates. For compensation purposes, the billing LEC would remit to the non-billing LECs all of the end-user customer revenues billed on their behalf.

- (4) The Joint Applicants are seeking a waiver so that they may change the billing method for jointly provided private line services and FX circuits from SB/MT to a multiple bill/multiple tariff (MB/MT) methodology. The MB/MT methodology provides the end-user customer with a bill from each company for that company's portion of the jointly provided private line circuit.
- (5) As explained in the application, the Joint Applicants will implement this billing method change using a two-phase approach. In Phase 1, effective upon the granting of this waiver, the Joint Applicants will, on a prospective basis, bill all new jointly provided private line and FX circuits utilizing the MB/MT method.
- (6) In Phase 2, the billing for the existing jointly provided private line and FX circuits provided under tariff on a month-to-month basis will be converted to the MB/MT method effective on March 5, 2007. For the existing jointly provided private line and FX circuits provided under a term plan, the existing contract term and compensation arrangements will continue in effect until the contract is renegotiated or the current term expires, whichever occurs first.
- (7) The Joint Applicants have worked with Staff to develop a comprehensive customer notice which explains the new billing method and the potential impact on the customer's bill. This customer notice will be used by the Joint Applicants.
- (8) The Commission finds that the application for waiver and the customer notice filed by the Joint Applicants in this matter should be approved.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the proposed application be approved. The Joint Applicants are permitted to use a multiple bill/multiple tariff billing method for their private line and FX circuits effective upon granting of this waiver. It is, further,

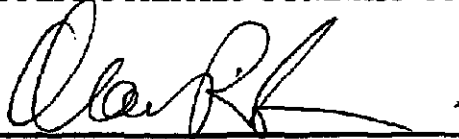
ORDERED, That the Joint Applicants use the customer notice developed with the assistance of Staff. It is, further,

ORDERED, That this application has been filed pursuant to Section 4909.18, Revised Code, and the Commission finds, as the Joint Applicants allege, that it is not for an increase in any rate, joint rate, toll, classification, charge or rental and does not appear to be unjust or unreasonable and should be approved. Therefore, the Commission finds it unnecessary to hold a hearing in this matter. It is, further,

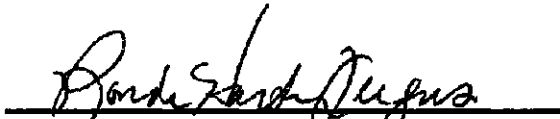
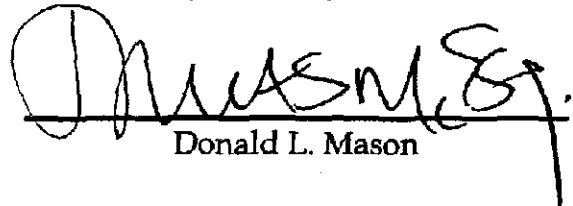
ORDERED, That nothing in this finding and order shall be binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this finding and order be served upon the Joint Applicants.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



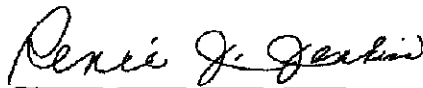
Alan R. Schriber, Chairman


Ronda Hartman Fergus
Judith A. Jones
Valerie A. Lemmie
Donald L. Mason

LS/JRJ/vrm

Entered in the Journal

FEB 14 2007



Renee J. Jenkins
Secretary