

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application)
of Ameritech Ohio to Revise its)
Ameritech Tariff PUCO No. 20, to) Case No. 96-670-TP-ATA
Withdraw Distinctive Ringing and)
Remove References From the Tariff.)

In the Matter of the Application of)
Ameritech Ohio to Revise its)
Ameritech Tariff, PUCO No. 20, to)
Add Sunset Provision Language to) Case No. 96-671-TP-ATA
the Grandfathered Service Optional)
Off-Peak Toll.)

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) On July 11, 1996, in Case No. 96-670-TP-ATA, Ameritech Ohio (Applicant) filed an application with the Commission to revise the Ameritech Tariff, PUCO No. 20, to withdraw Distinctive Ringing and remove references to the advanced custom calling feature Distinctive Ringing and the ISDN Direct feature Distinctive Ringing due to low subscriber usage.
- (2) On July 11, 1996, in Case No. 96-671-TP-ATA, Ameritech Ohio filed an application to add sunset provision language to the grandfathered service Optional Off-Peak Toll. The sunset provision will result in the withdrawal of this service no later than November 11, 1997.
- (3) Pursuant to Ameritech's alternative regulation plan, approved in Case No. 93-487-TP-ALT, Ameritech is permitted to withdraw or to change the terms and conditions, other than price, of an existing service by filing an application with the Commission at least 30 days prior to its effective date. Unless the tariff application is suspended by the Commission within 30 days after it is filed, the change will proceed in accordance with the terms of the application. This type of filing requires a notice to customers that the service has been changed or withdrawn.
- (4) On August 9, 1996, the Commission issued an Entry in these cases suspending Ameritech's applications so the staff could ~~more thoroughly review~~ the customer notices.

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- (5) On August 19, 1996, in Case Nos. 96-670-TP-ATA and 96-671-TP-ATA, Ameritech Ohio filed at the request of the staff, its customer notices.
- (6) Distinctive Ringing, a service with a limited number of subscribers, works off a list of telephone numbers so that if the call originates at one of the telephone numbers on a subscriber's list, the subscriber hears a Distinctive Ring. Upon approval of this application, a promotion is planned which will afford Distinctive Ringing customers the opportunity to transfer to a similar service called Multi-Ring.
- (7) Optional Off-Peak Toll service was grandfathered on March 11, 1993. The service, to the grandfathered customers, is available during the off-peak hours or from 3:00 P.M. on any week day to 9:00 A.M. the following week day, from 3:00 P.M. on Friday to 9:00 A.M. the following Monday and on Holidays. Off-peak toll calling is further restricted to exchange areas that are not over 22 airline miles from the exchange area in which the off-peak toll customer is located. Monthly rates for the service includes one hour of off-peak calling with additional usage offered in fifteen minute increments of use. A limited number of customers currently subscribe to Optional Off-Peak Toll service. In the past year, Ameritech has introduced new optional toll calling plans, that could serve as reasonable substitutes for the Optional Off-Peak Toll service.
- (8) Area Wide Calling, introduced in August 1996, is one of the new toll plans considered as a possible substitute for Optional Off-Peak Toll service. This new toll plan is a residential optional calling plan that for a monthly rate provides thirty minutes of intraLATA toll usage. Area Wide Calling usage in excess of the thirty minute allowance is billed at Schedule B Residence message toll rates less a 30% discount. The additional usage units for Area Wide Calling is offered in one minute increments rather than fifteen minute increments of use. Also, Area Wide Calling does not restrict the hours with which the service may be used as does Optional Off-Peak Toll service. Area Wide Calling offers greater customer flexibility at a value similar to, and in many cases, better than Optional Off-Peak Toll service. Upon approval of this application, Optional Off-Peak Toll service customers will be notified about Area Wide Calling and other optional discount toll plans that Ameritech now offers.

- (9) After a thorough review of these applications, Staff recommends their approval by the Commission.
- (10) These applications have been filed pursuant to Section 4909.18, Revised Code, and the Commission finds, as the Applicant alleges, that they are not for an increase in any rate, joint rate, toll classification, charge, or rental and do not appear to be unjust or unreasonable and should be approved. Therefore, the Commission finds it unnecessary to hold a hearing in these matters.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That these applications and their customer notices be approved. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Applicant is authorized to file in final form, three complete printed copies of its final tariffs consistent with this Finding and Order. Applicant should file its tariffs, under one cover letter, which references the applicable case number, and its "TRF" case number. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than both the date of this Finding and Order and the date upon which three complete printed copies of the final tariffs are filed with the Commission. The new tariffs shall be effective for services rendered on or after such effective date. It is, further,

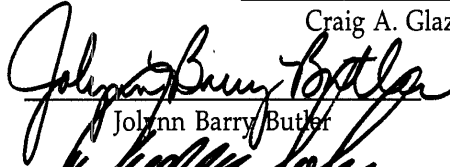
ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That these cases be closed of record. It is, further,

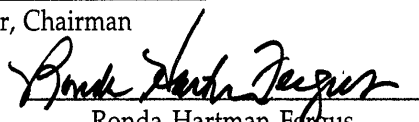
ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon Applicant.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

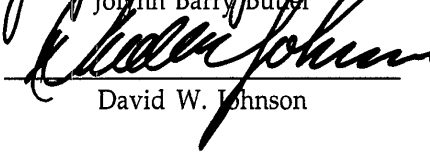
Craig A. Glazer, Chairman



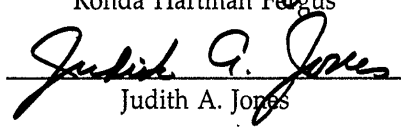
Johann Barry Butler



Ronda Hartman Fergus



David W. Johnson



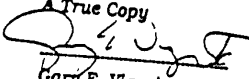
Judith A. Jones

RM:ct

Entered in the Journal

AUG 7 1997

A True Copy



Gary E. Vigorito
Secretary

SERVICE NOTICE

PAGE 1

CASE NUMBER 96-671-TP-ATA
CASE DESCRIPTION AMERITECH OHIO
DOCUMENT SIGNED ON August 7, 1997
DATE OF SERVICE 8-8-97

PERSONS SERVED

PARTIES OF RECORD

ATTORNEYS

APPLICANT

AMERITECH OHIO
JON F. KELLY
150 E. GAY STREET ROOM 4-C
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

D. R. MCKENZIE
DIRECTOR - RATES AND TARIFFS
AMERITECH OHIO
150 EAST GAY STREET ROOM 19-M
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-3111

JUDITH E. MATZ
MANAGER, REGULATORY/DOCKET MGMT
AMERITECH OHIO
150 E. GAY STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215