

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Expansion of the)
Electronic Filing Pilot Project and Waiver of) Case No. 06-900-AU-WVR
Procedural Rules 4901-1-02 through 4901-1-)
04, Ohio Administrative Code.)

In the Matter of the Request of AT&T Ohio)
for Waiver of Procedural Rules 4901-1-02 to) Case No. 05-548-AU-WVR
4901-1-04, Ohio Administrative Code, to)
Permit Electronic Filing.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) By entry issued September 14, 2005 in Case No. 05-548-AU-WVR (05-548), the Commission granted the motion of SBC Ohio, Inc., now operating as AT&T Ohio (AT&T Ohio), for waiver of the procedural requirements contained in Rules 4901-1-02 through 4901-1-04, Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), to permit the electronic filing of documents via the internet (E-filing) using new capabilities being developed for the Commission's Docketing Information System (DIS). Pursuant to that entry, AT&T Ohio has been E-filing weekly reports in Case Nos. 05-931-TP-CTR and 06-931-TP-CTR, as well as TRF filings in Case No. 90-5032-TP-TRF.
- (2) Ohio's Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Chapter 1306, Revised Code, generally provides for the acceptance of electronic documents and signatures by agreement of the parties where adequate security and retention measures are satisfied. The Commission has developed adequate systems and safeguards to expand the use of E-filing beyond the test with AT&T Ohio. We are now ready to open this pilot program to other utilities that are willing to participate in the development of the DIS E-filing process and procedures. Accordingly, the Commission now expands the E-filing pilot to permit utility companies to request authority in this new docket, Case No. 06-900-AU-WVR (06-900), to E-file in the following situations:

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- Telecommunications companies may make filings pursuant to Rule 4901:1-6-19, O.A.C., in their CTR dockets; and
- All utilities may make filings in their respective tariff repository (TRF) dockets.

Sections 4901-1-02 and 4901-1-03, O.A.C., contemplate the filing of paper or "hard" copies of applications and other documents, but also include provisions for the filing of facsimile copies. Section 4901-1-04, O.A.C., requires that applications be signed by the filers or their attorneys. These rules should be relaxed to the extent necessary to permit the E-filing of documents in CTR or TRF cases. These dockets do not involve other parties and essentially act as document archives. As such, these filings will help the Commission identify issues and establish processes to expand E-filing beyond the initial effort in 05-548. While we are only allowing E-Filing in CTR and TRF cases at this time, future entries in the new 06-900 docket will establish procedures for the extension of E-filing in other circumstances.

- (3) In order to participate in this pilot program, utilities should file a request for waiver of the procedural rules and participation agreement in the 06-900 case. A copy of this form is attached to this entry and will be posted on the Commission's website under the electronic filing information link at :

<http://www.puco.ohio.gov/PUCO/Docketing>.

Filers who have not already done so should also obtain a username and password, and submit an E-Filing profile following the instructions posted at the above URL. After the participation agreement is filed and the profile approved, an attorney examiner's entry will be issued authorizing the participant to begin E-filing. Filers will be able to log in to a secure website and submit PDF and other files. The PDF file will be time and date stamped by the system, and will function as the official filing. For quality control purposes during this test period, filers will be required to submit, within two business days, one hard copy of the filing with a copy of the confirmation page attached in front, but the electronic filing will be treated as the official filing in the case. Filings submitted

after 5:30 p.m. will, if accepted, be deemed filed on the following business day. Filers will use "/s/" followed by the signer's name to indicate a signature where applicable. Filers will also be required to comply with any other technical requirements posted on the Commission's website. Utilities who participate in E-filing their TRF documents should note that they must continue to make the requisite paper filings in any companion ATA case or other docket.

- (4) In our prior entry in 05-548, AT&T Ohio was directed to make all E-filings in that docket as well as the appropriate CTR or TRF case. With the issuance of this entry, 05-548 will be closed. AT&T Ohio should now cease making any filings in the 05-548 case and instead follow the procedures established in this new 06-900 generic docket. We further note that AT&T Ohio has proposed to begin E-Filing its "ATA" and "ZTA" documents. The Commission appreciates the company's cooperation and efforts to date in developing this new process and we plan to implement such expansion in a future entry in the 06-900 docket.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the E-filing pilot project be expanded as set forth in Finding (2). It is, further,

ORDERED, That waiver of procedural requirements contained in Rules 4901-1-02 to 4901-1-04, O.A.C., be granted to E-filing participants in accordance with Finding (3). It is, further,

ORDERED, That parties, once authorized in the 06-900 docket, may begin E-filing in CTR and TRF cases. It is, further,

ORDERED, That 05-548 be closed, and AT&T Ohio comply with the directives set forth above. It is, further,

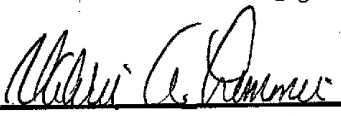
ORDERED, That notice of this entry be served via all appropriate Commission electronic mail lists.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman


Ronda Hartman Fergus


Judith A. Jones

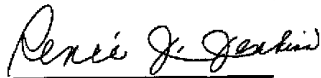

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Renee J. Jenkins
Secretary



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Commission of Ohio

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Electronic Filing Participation Agreement and Request for Waiver of Procedural Rules

Case No. 06-900-AU-WVR

Pursuant to the Commission's entry issued July 26, 2006 in the above referenced case, the undersigned wishes to participate in the electronic filing of documents via the internet using the PUCO's Docketing Information System (DIS), and requests waiver of the procedural requirements contained in Rules 4901-1-02 through 4901-1-04, Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), which would otherwise apply to such filings. The undersigned agrees that the use of a username and password in accordance with the Commission's orders, rules, and technical specifications will constitute the filer's signature and validation of filed documents pursuant to Ohio's Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Chapter 1306, Revised Code. The undersigned also agrees that notification of filings via the DIS electronic mail procedure shall constitute valid service of electronically filed documents. The undersigned acknowledges that filer participation is voluntary, the filer assumes any risks associated with this endeavor, and failure to abide by the Commission's rules, technical specifications, or other directives may result in the revocation of electronic filing privileges.

Filer Information :

Name: _____

Company/Firm: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____