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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Bell Atlantic Network Data, Inc. for)	
Approval of Interconnection Agreement)	
with GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE)	<u>Case No. TO-2000-860</u>
Arkansas Incorporated, Pursuant to)	
Section 252(E) of the Telecommunications)	
Act of 1996.)	

ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE

On June 29, 2000, Bell Atlantic Network Data, Inc. (Applicant) filed an application with the Commission for approval of an interconnection agreement with GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated (collectively, GTE) under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). The applicant states that the agreement has been executed by the parties and complies with Section 252(e) of the Act in that it is not discriminatory to non-party carriers and is consistent with the public interest. The applicant requests expeditious approval of the agreement.

The Act provides that an interconnection agreement must be approved unless the state commission finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or that implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. 47 U.S.C. Section 252(e).

Although GTE is a party to the agreement, it did not join in the application. The Commission will make GTE a party to this case.

The Commission finds that proper persons should be allowed 20 days from the issuance of this order to file a motion for hearing or an application to participate without intervention. Participation may be permitted for the limited purpose of filing comments addressing whether this agreement meets the federal standards for approval of interconnection agreements. The requirement of a hearing is met when an opportunity to be heard has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

Section 252(e)(4) of the Act provides that if the Commission has not approved an agreement within ninety days after submission, the agreement shall be deemed approved. Therefore, the Commission will proceed with this case expeditiously and, if there are no requests for a hearing, relief may be granted based on the verified petition. The Commission finds that notice of this application should be sent to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Records Department of the Commission shall send notice to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.

2. That any party wishing to request a hearing or to participate without intervention in this matter shall file an application no later than July 26, 2000 with:

Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission
Post Office Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and send copies to:

James M. Fischer
Fischer and Dority, P.C.
101 West McCarty, Suite 215
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

and

Office of the Public Counsel
Post Office Box 7800
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

3. That GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated are made parties to this case.

4. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a memorandum advising either approval or rejection of this agreement and giving the reasons therefor no later than September 14, 2000.

5. That this order shall become effective on July 17, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lewis R. Mills, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 6th day of July, 2000.