

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Nashville, Tennessee

February 12, 1996

**IN RE: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL
UTILITIES SERVICE NETWORK MODERNIZATION RULES
REQUIREMENTS.**

Docket No. 96-00143

ORDER

This matter is before the Tennessee Public Service Commission upon the Petition of the United States Department of Agriculture. The Petition seeks re-affirmation and clarification of some elements of the Commission's FYI plan. Such action is sought from the Commission in order to conform to rules promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service in 7 CFR 1751.

The Public Service Commission considered this matter and approved it at its January 30, 1996 Commission Conference.

WHEREFORE, having considered the matter the Public Service Commission finds that the Petition is in the public interest and should be **approved**.

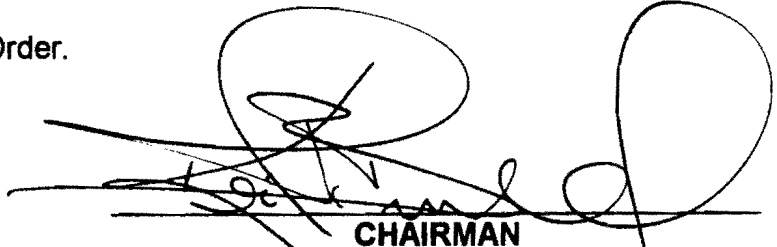
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That telecommunications service providers covered by the FYI Tennessee Master Plan and seeking funding from the Rural Utilities Service shall deploy services within their service areas at the same time in rural and non-rural areas.
2. That Tennessee telephone cooperatives voluntarily be included in network planning within the parameters set forth in the FYI Tennessee master plan.
3. That pursuant to the Commission's intent in the FYI Tennessee master plan, telecommunications service providers shall make a good faith effort to ensure that the design of their network allows for the expeditious deployment and integration of such emerging technologies as from time to time become commercially feasible.
4. That telecommunications service providers make a good faith effort to deploy medical link and educational-distance learning services at affordable tariffs or rates.
5. That the reliability of the network during electric power outages be insured by providing reliable powering of ordinary voice telephone service operating over those portions of the network which are not network powered.
6. That all new facilities providing Wireline Service after the medium-term requirements start date, even if the construction began before such date, shall be capable, as built or with additional equipment, of transmitting video to a subscriber. The video must be capable of depicting a reasonable representation of motion. Details will be left to the

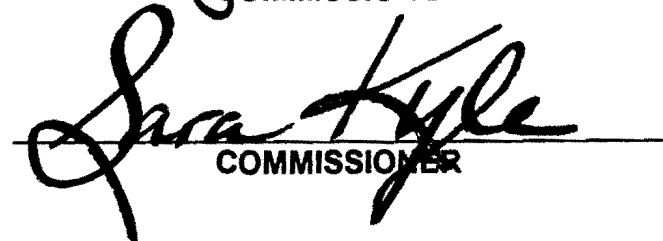
telecommunications service providers, however overall quality of the image should not be less than current VHS standards.

7. That any party aggrieved by the Commission's decision in this matter may file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Tennessee Public Service Commission within ten (10) days from and after the date of this Order.

8. That any party aggrieved by the Commission's decision in this matter may file a Petition for Review in the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Middle Section, within sixty (60) days from and after the date of this Order.


CHAIRMAN


COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR