

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

March 10, 2003

IN RE:

**SMALL TELEPHONE COMPANIES TARIFF FILINGS
REGARDING RECLASSIFICATION OF PAY
TELEPHONE SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION DOCKET 96-128**

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)
) **DOCKET NO.**
) **97-01181**
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**ORDER APPROVING THE REQUEST TO WITHDRAW
TARIFF NO. 2002-00363 BY MILLINGTON TELEPHONE COMPANY**

This matter came before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director Deborah Taylor Tate, and Director Ron Jones of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority" or "TRA"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at the regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on February 18, 2003, to consider the request to withdraw Tariff No. 2002-00363, which was filed by Millington Telephone Company ("Millington") on February 6, 2003.

Background

On September 6, 2002, the independent local exchange carriers ("LECs") who are parties to this action were directed to file comments and rate proposals for the provisioning of payphone access services to payphone service providers.

On October 9, 2002, the Coalition of Tennessee Small Local Exchange Companies ("Coalition") filed the *Request of Coalition of Tennessee Small Local Exchange Companies for Extension of Time to File Comments and Rate Proposals as Directed by Notice of Filing Dated September 26, 2002* ("Request"). The Request sought an additional

twenty days in which to file comments.¹ The Tennessee Payphone Owners Association ("TPOA") filed a Response on October 11, 2002, asserting that it would not oppose a continuance of seven to ten days.

On October 14, 2002, the Pre-Hearing Officer granted the Coalition's Request and directed the independent LECs to file their comments, rate proposals and justifications for rates no later than Monday, November 4, 2002. On the same day, consistent with the September 26, 2002 directive, Millington filed the tariff that is the subject of this Order, Tariff No. 2002-00363.

On November 1, 2002, the Coalition and the TPOA jointly filed an *Agreed Motion for Continuance*, requesting an extension of time until November 11, 2002, to file comments to assist in settlement discussions.

The November 4, 2002 Authority Conference

At the November 4, 2002 Authority Conference, the voting panel determined that the interests of administrative economy and consistency required Millington's rate proposal to be considered simultaneously with the rate proposals of the Coalition. Accordingly, the panel unanimously voted to defer action on Millington's November 4, 2002 tariff filing for ninety days, from November 14, 2002 through February 11, 2003. On February 6, 2003, Millington filed a request to withdraw its tariff.

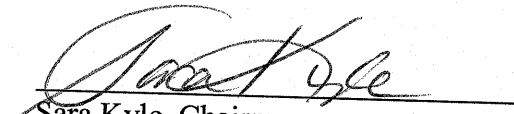
¹ The Coalition consists of the following companies: Ardmore Telephone Company, Inc., the Century Tel, Inc. Companies in Tennessee (including Century Tel of Adamsville, Inc., Century Tel of Claiborne, Inc. and Century Tel of Ooltewah-Collegedale, Inc.), Loretto Telephone Company, Inc., the TDS Telecom Companies in Tennessee (including Concord Telephone Exchange, Inc., Humphreys County Telephone Company, Tellico Telephone Company, Inc. and Tennessee Telephone Company), the Telephone Electronics Corp. ("TEC") Companies in Tennessee (including Crockett Telephone Company, Inc., Peoples Telephone Company, Inc. and West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.) and United Telephone Company, Inc. Millington is not a member of the Coalition.

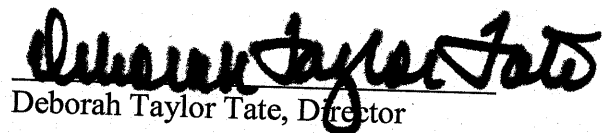
The February 18, 2003 Authority Conference

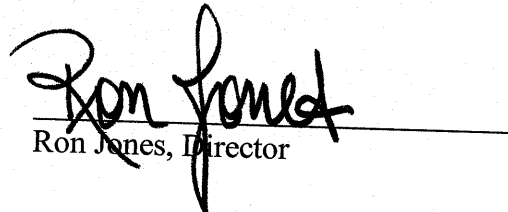
At the regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on February 18, 2003, the voting panel addressed Millington's unopposed request to withdraw its tariff. Upon consideration of the request and the entire record in this matter, the panel voted unanimously to approve Millington's request to withdraw Tariff No. 2002-00363.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The request of Millington Telephone Company to withdraw Tariff No. 2002-00363 is approved.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


Deborah Taylor Tate, Director


Ron Jones, Director