

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

February 19, 1999

IN RE: Petition for Approval of the	)	
Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by	)	
Citizens Telecommunications Company of	)	
Tennessee and US LEC of Tennessee Pursuant to	)	DOCKET NO. 98-00824
Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications	)	
Act of 1996	)	
	)	

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee for approval of the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") negotiated by and between Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee and US LEC of Tennessee. The Petition for approval of the Agreement came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252.

The Agreement was considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on January 19, 1999, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Melvin J. Malone, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Sara Kyle. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 et seq. Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and made the following findings and conclusions:

- 1) The Agreement is in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee service area;

2) The Agreement is not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;

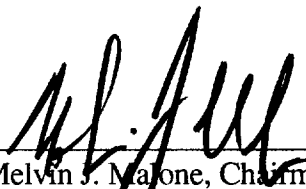
3) No other party has sought intervention in this docket;

4) The approval of the Agreement is consistent with previous Authority decisions and orders; and

5) The Agreement is reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 et seq.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee and US LEC of Tennessee is approved and is subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.



Melvin J. Malone, Chairman

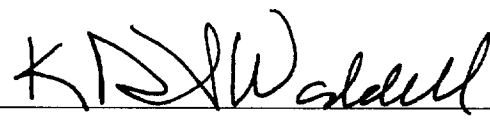


H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director



Sara Kyle, Director

ATTEST:



K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary