

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Jim Robinson, Chairman  
F.S. Jack Alexander  
Rachel C. Lipman

In the Matter of a Common )  
Depreciation Schedule for small ) Docket No. 188,681-U  
Independent Telephone Companies )  
in Kansas. )

ORDER

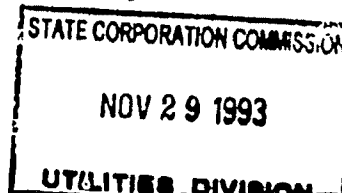
NOW, the above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having examined its files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On June 24, 1993, Commission staff (staff) provided the Commission with a recommended streamlined process for the determination of depreciation rates and proposed submitting the modifications to the industry and interested parties for comment.

2. On August 27, 1993, the Commission issued an order initiating a comment period concerning staff's proposed streamlined process for the determination of depreciation rates. The order indicated comments would only be accepted in written form through and including September 30, 1993, at 5:00 p.m.

3. On October 4, 1993, the Commission issued an order establishing a reply comment period for interested parties to file written reply comments through and including October 22, 1993, at 5:00 p.m.

4. On October 29, 1993, Independent Telecommunications Group, Columbus et al, (Columbus) filed responsive comments in



reply to the comments filed by other parties.

5. On November 4, 1993, Columbus filed a motion for receipt and consideration by the Commission of comments not timely filed. In support of its motion, Columbus stated the delay in filing its reply comments was due to inadvertence in that counsel for Columbus, owing to a particularly burdensome schedule, had mistakenly believed that such reply comments were due on October 29, 1993. Columbus, through its counsel, acknowledged it had received an order setting a date for reply comments of October 22, and counsel could offer no explanation for his misapprehension of the correct date beyond that caused by particularly burdensome schedule. Columbus indicated the reply comments would be beneficial to a fair and reasoned determination of the matters at issue in this docket. Columbus noted the delay of one week in submitting such comments is not prejudicial to any interested party herein. There has been no objection to this motion filed by any party.

6. Pursuant to K.A.R. 82-1-202, the Commission has the authority to waive its own rules and to permit and consider such comments filed out of time upon a showing of good cause.

7. The Commission finds and concludes that Columbus' motion is in the public interest and shall be granted. Columbus' reply comments shall be received and considered as if timely filed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

Columbus' motion for receipt and consideration by the Commission of comments not timely filed is hereby granted.

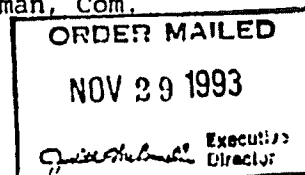
Columbus' reply comments are hereby received and will be considered as if timely filed.

Any party may file a petition for reconsideration of this order within fifteen days of the date this order is served. If service is by mail, service is complete upon mailing and three days may be added to the above time frame.

The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further order or orders as it may deem necessary.

Robinson, Chmn.; Alexander, Com.; Lipman, Com.

Dated: NOV. 24 1993



JUDITH McCONNELL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MLC:jtb