

DT 99-001

**VERIZON NEW HAMPSHIRE/PAETECH COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

**Order Nisi Approving Amendment to Interconnection Agreement**

**O R D E R   N O.   23,857**

**December 3, 2001**

On September 26, 2001, Verizon New England d/b/a Verizon New Hampshire (Verizon) and PaeTech Communications, Inc. (PaeTech), jointly filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement (Agreement) between the parties. The Agreement was approved by the Commission on February 1, 1999, in Docket No. DT 99-001 under Order No. 23,130. This Amendment is filed pursuant to section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (TAct) and provides for two-way interconnection trunks for the exchange of traffic between the networks of Verizon and PaeTech.

The Commission Staff (Staff) has reviewed the Amendment and recommends approval. According to Staff, the filing meets the standards of section 252(e)(2)(A) of the TAct relating to agreements adopted by negotiation. This provision requires Commission approval of an interconnection agreement absent a determination that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or that the implementation of the agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

We have examined the filing and concur with the parties

and the Staff. The Petition appears to meet the standards established by the United States Congress in the TAct for amendments to Interconnection Agreements. The Amendment is not obviously discriminatory to any carrier not a party to the negotiations and is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. We will approve it on a nisi basis in order to provide any interested party an opportunity to submit comments or request a hearing.

**Based on the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED NISI**, that the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between PaeTech and Verizon is APPROVED; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Petitioner shall cause a copy of this Order Nisi to be published once in a statewide newspaper of general circulation, such publication to be no later than December 13, 2001, and to be documented by affidavit filed with this office on or before December 27, 2001; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that all persons interested in responding to this Petition be notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing on this matter before the Commission no later than December 20, 2001; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that this Order Nisi shall be effective January 2, 2002, unless the Commission provides

otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this third day of December, 2001.

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Thomas B. Getz  
Chairman

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Susan S. Geiger  
Commissioner

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Nancy Brockway  
Commissioner

Attested by:

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Claire D. DiCicco  
Assistant Secretary