

P-3008/NA-89-140 ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Patrice Vick	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Request for a Certificate of  
Authority to Resell Long Distance Service

ISSUE DATE: June 20, 1990

DOCKET NO. P-3008/NA-89-140

ORDER ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Telecommunications Access for Communication-Impaired Persons (TACIP) is a state program to distribute communication devices to eligible persons with communications impairments and to create and maintain a statewide message relay service. The enabling statute, Minn. Stat. §§237.50-237.56 (1988) requires the program to be funded through a surcharge on all telephone access lines.

On September 26, 1989, the Commission issued its ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY in the above docket. That Order granted the TACIP Board the authority to provide intrastate long distance telephone services. In the September 26 Order the Commission also required TACIP to file a report on or before December 31, 1989, setting forth its plans to revise its intrastate toll rates to recover billing costs.

On December 29, 1989, the TACIP Board filed its annual report on program operations pursuant to Minn. Stat. §237.55 (1988). In its report, the Board indicated that it was continuing to attempt to implement a billing system. Until the billing system was operational, the TACIP Board was absorbing intrastate toll costs.

After meeting to consider TACIP's annual report, the Commission issued its ORDER REQUIRING REPORT in the present docket. This Order, which was issued on March 2, 1990, specifically required the TACIP Board to file a report on its billing mechanism within 60 days (by May 1, 1990). The Commission listed six specific items which were to be addressed in the TACIP report.

On May 1, 1990, the TACIP Board filed a request for an extension until July 2, 1990, in which to submit its report. The Board stated that it had received a proposal for the billing system on April 27, 1990, and therefore needed more time to assess the information.

No party opposed the request for an extension.

The matter came before the Commission on May 22, 1990.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Because TACIP is a worthy program which will improve the quality of life of many communications-impaired persons, the Commission wishes to facilitate its implementation. The Commission is also aware that the program was only begun in 1987, and delays in startup are understandable.

At the same time, the Commission notes that the billing system report was requested of TACIP several months ago. The Commission also has concerns regarding the use of TACIP surcharge revenues to pay for intrastate toll calls placed by individual users of the message relay service.

For the above reasons, the Commission will grant the TACIP Board's request for a time extension while urging the Board to submit its billing system report in the very near future.

### ORDER

1. The TACIP Board is granted an extension of time until July 2, 1990 to file the information required under the Commission's March 2, 1989 ORDER REQUIRING REPORT in the present docket.
4. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)