

P-3007/GR-93-1 ORDER GRANTING PARTY STATUS

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Independent Equal Access Corporation for Authority to Increase Its Rates for Telephone Service in the State of Minnesota	ISSUE DATE: July 22, 1993
	DOCKET NO. P-3007/GR-93-1
	ORDER GRANTING PARTY STATUS

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On March 22, 1993, the Minnesota Independent Equal Access Corporation (MIEAC) filed a petition seeking a general rate increase of 25.8 percent.

On May 11, 1993, the Commission issued its ORDER ACCEPTING FILING AND SUSPENDING RATES. In that Order the Commission adopted a modified rate case procedure proposed by MIEAC. Rather than sending the matter directly to contested case hearing, the Commission established a schedule of party filings, with the opportunity for the parties to reach an eventual settlement. Any issues remaining unsettled could be referred for contested case proceedings or in some cases could be decided by the Commission without being referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings.

At Order Paragraph No. 3 of the May 11 Order, the Commission established a method for determining parties to the MIEAC rate case proceeding:

Upon request filed with the Commission, any party that actively and fully participated in MIEAC's initial application [P-3007/NA-89-76] shall have status as a party in this proceeding. Parties eligible for party status upon request are: the Department, the Residential Utilities Division of the Office of the Attorney General (RUD-OAG), AT&T, USWC, and MCI/Teleconnect. Any other person shall meet the customary standards for intervention.

On May 28, 1993, the Department filed a request to be granted party status.

MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI/Teleconnect) filed a request for party status on July 8, 1993.

The two requests came before the Commission for consideration on July 13, 1993.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Both the Department and MCI/Teleconnect were active participants in MIEAC's initial application, Docket No. P-3007/NA-89-76. Both the Department and MCI/Teleconnect have properly submitted requests for party status to the Commission. Each petitioner is thus eligible for party status under the terms of the Commission's May 11, 1993 Order. The Commission will name the Department and MCI/Teleconnect as parties to the MIEAC rate case proceedings herein.

The Commission notes that other interested persons who are eligible for party status upon request have not submitted their requests to the Commission at this time. Any interested persons who wish to be accorded party status are urged to submit their requests at their earliest opportunity.

**ORDER**

1. The Department of Public Service and MCI Telecommunications Corporation are granted party status in the MIEAC rate case proceedings.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)