

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Request for Review of the	)	
Decision of the	)	
Universal Service Administrator by	)	
	)	
Jefferson County School District	)	File No. SLD-179723
Fayette, Mississippi	)	
	)	
Federal-State Joint Board on	)	CC Docket No. 96-45
Universal Service	)	
	)	
Changes to the Board of Directors of the	)	CC Docket No. 97-21
National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.	)	

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**ORDER**

**Adopted: November 7, 2000**

**Released: November 8, 2000**

By the Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau:

1. The Accounting Policy Division has under consideration a Letter of Appeal filed by Jefferson County School District (Jefferson), Fayette, Mississippi, seeking review of a decision issued by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (Administrator).<sup>1</sup> Jefferson seeks review of SLD's refusal to consider Jefferson's appeal to SLD on the grounds that it was untimely filed. For the reasons set forth below, we deny Jefferson's appeal.

2. SLD issued a Funding Commitment Decision Letter on April 7, 2000, denying Jefferson's request for discounted services under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, SLD denied Jefferson's request for discounts for telecommunications services, Funding Request Number (FRN) 365068. On June 9, 2000, Jefferson filed an appeal of SLD's decision to deny FRN 365086.<sup>3</sup> On June 14, 2000, SLD issued an Administrator's Decision on Appeal indicating that it would not consider Jefferson's

<sup>1</sup> Letter from John E. Dickey, Jefferson County School District, to Federal Communications Commission, filed July 3, 2000 (Letter of Appeal).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, to John E. Dickey, Jefferson County School District, dated April 7, 2000 (Funding Commitment Decision Letter).

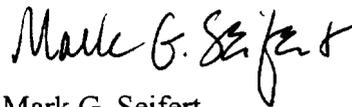
<sup>3</sup> Letter from John E. Dickey, Jefferson County School District, to Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, filed June 9, 2000.

appeal because it was received more than 30 days after the Funding Commitment Decision Letter was issued.<sup>4</sup> Jefferson subsequently filed the instant Letter of Appeal with the Commission.

3. Under section 54.720 of the Commission's rules, an appeal must be filed with the Commission or SLD within 30 days of the issuance of the decision as to which review is sought.<sup>5</sup> Documents are considered to be filed with the Commission or SLD only upon receipt.<sup>6</sup> The 30-day deadline contained in section 54.720 of the Commission's rules applies to all requests for review filed by a party affected by a decision issued by the Administrator. Because Jefferson failed to file an appeal of the April 7, 2000 Funding Commitment Decision Letter within the requisite 30-day appeal period, we affirm SLD's decision to dismiss Jefferson's appeal to SLD as untimely and deny the instant Letter of Appeal.

4. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to authority delegated under sections 0.91, 0.291, and 54.722(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, and 54.722(a), that the Letter of Appeal filed by Jefferson County School District, Fayette, Mississippi on July 3, 2000, IS DENIED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



Mark G. Seifert  
Deputy Chief, Accounting Policy Division  
Common Carrier Bureau

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<sup>4</sup> Letter from Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, to John E. Dickey, Jefferson County School District, dated June 14, 2000 (Administrator's Decision on Appeal).

<sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.720.

<sup>6</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.7.