

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of
Request for Review of the
Decision of the
Universal Service Administrator by
Connect2 Internet Networks, Inc.
Staten island, New York
Federal-State Joint Board on
Universal Service
Changes to the Board of Directors of the
National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.
File Nos. SLD-180230,180442
CC Docket No. 96-45
CC Docket No. 97-21

ORDER

Adopted: June 26, 2001

Released: June 27, 2001

By the Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau:

1. The Accounting Policy Division has under consideration two Requests for Review filed by Connect2 Internet Networks, Inc. (Connect2), Staten Island, New York, on behalf of Clara Muhammad School, Corona, New York and Epiphany Lutheran School, Brooklyn, New York. Connect2 requests that the Commission review its application under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism. For the reasons discussed below, we dismiss Connect2's Request for Review because its issues are moot.

2. Under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism, eligible schools, libraries, and consortia that include eligible schools and libraries may apply for discounts for eligible telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections. To receive discounts for eligible services, an eligible school or library "shall . . . submit a completed FCC Form 471 to the Administrator." The FCC Form 471 requires the applicant to provide specific information about the service for which a discount is sought. Applications filed during the

1 Letters from John Angelides, Connect2 Internet Networks, Inc., to Federal Communications Commission, filed January 24, 2000 and March 16, 2000 (Requests for Review).

2 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.502, 54.503.

3 47 C.F.R. § 54.504(c).

4 See Schools and Libraries Universal Service, Services Ordered and Certification Form, OMB 3060-0806 (FCC Form 471) (attached as Appendix A). On the FCC Form 471, the applicant records data used by SLD to evaluate

filing window are deemed simultaneously filed.<sup>5</sup> The filing window for the 2000-01 funding year (Year 3) opened on November 10, 1999, and closed on January 19, 2000.<sup>6</sup>

3. Connect2 attempted to file an FCC Form 471 electronically requesting discounted services for Year 3 but experienced server interruptions and time outs.<sup>7</sup> Connect2 contacted SLD and was advised that thousands of similar complaints had been received.<sup>8</sup> SLD also informed Connect2 to complete the filing on-line, and file an appeal with the Commission. Connect2 then filed the instant Request for Review.

4. The record shows that on September 15, 2000 and November 17, 2000, SLD issued Funding Commitment Decision Letters regarding requests for discounted services to Epiphany Lutheran School and Clara Muhammad School, respectively.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, we dismiss Connect2's Request for Review as moot.

5. 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 Requests for Review filed by Connect2 Internet Networks, Inc., Staten Island, New York on January 24, 2000 and March 16, 2000, ARE DISMISSED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

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the eligibility for discounts of the services received and the entities receiving them, as well as to determine the applicant's priority to receive a discount for a particular request and the discount available to the applicant if the discount is granted. Specific information requested on the FCC Form 471 identifies, for example, the applicant; the individual entities (*i.e.*, particular schools and libraries) that will be receiving services; the vendors; key terms of contracts between vendors and the applicant, including pricing and length of contract; and which entities will be receiving what services included in the application.

<sup>5</sup> The Commission's rules establish a window to be determined by SLD. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.507(c). Commission rules also establish funding priorities for those requests filed during the window. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.507(g).

<sup>6</sup> *See* SLD website, SLD Announces Availability of New Forms, <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/whatsnew/101999.asp>.

<sup>7</sup> FCC Form 471, Connect2 Internet Networks, Inc., filed January 19, 2000.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *See* Letter from Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, to Jeffrey Grannum, Epiphany Lutheran School, dated September 15, 2000; Letter from Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, to Sister Shirley Dye, Clara Muhammad School, dated November 17, 2000.