

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Request for Review of the	)	
Decision of the	)	
Universal Service Administrator by	)	
	)	
Queen of Peace High School	)	File No. SLD-135552
Burbank, Illinois	)	
	)	
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.	)	

**ORDER**

**Adopted: June 23, 2000**

**Released: June 26, 2000**

By the Accounting Policy Division:

1. The Common Carrier Bureau has under consideration a Letter of Appeal filed by Queen of Peace High School (Queen of Peace), Burbank, Illinois, seeking review of a decision issued by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC or Administrator).<sup>1</sup> Queen of Peace seeks review of SLD's refusal to consider Queen of Peace's appeal to SLD on the grounds that it was untimely filed. For the reasons set forth below, we deny Queen of Peace's appeal.

2. SLD issued a Funding Commitment Decision Letter on November 16, 1999, denying Queen of Peace's request for discounted services under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, SLD denied Queen of Peace's request for discounts for telecommunications services, Funding Request Number (FRN) 202675. On March 2, 2000, Queen of Peace filed an appeal of SLD's decision to deny FRN 202675.<sup>3</sup> On March 24, 2000, SLD issued an Administrator's Decision on Appeal indicating that it would not consider Queen of Peace's appeal because it was received more than 30 days after the Funding

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Irene Halko, Queen of Peace High School, to Federal Communications Commission, filed March 20, 2000 (Letter of Appeal).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, to Irene Halko, Queen of Peace High School, dated November 16, 1999 (Funding Commitment Decision Letter).

<sup>3</sup> Letter from Irene Halko and Catherine A. Karl, Ph.D., Queen of Peace High School, to Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company, filed March 2, 2000.

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Commitment Decision Letter was issued.<sup>4</sup> Queen of Peace 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 the 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 the 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 Queen of Peace failed to file an appeal of the November 16, 1999 Funding Commitment Decision Letter within the requisite 30-day appeal period, we affirm SLD's decision to dismiss Queen of Peace'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 Queen of Peace High School, Burbank, Illinois on March 20, 2000, IS DENIED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Sharon L. Webber  
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 Irene Halko, Queen of Peace High School, dated March 24, 2000 (Administrator's Decision on Appeal).

<sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.720.

<sup>6</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.7.