

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of a Recommendation)	
Concerning the Surcharge for Deaf Relay)	Case No. TO-2003-0171
Service and Equipment Distribution Program Fund)	

**SBC MISSOURI'S
MOTION TO BE EXCUSED FROM
ON-THE-RECORD PRESENTATION**

COMES NOW Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri (SBC Missouri), and submits its Motion to be Excused from the On-the-Record Presentation set for March 3, 2003, in this case. In support of its Motion, SBC Missouri states to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) as follows:

1. The Commission established this case to review the current surcharge for the Deaf Relay Service and Equipment Distribution Program Fund. SBC Missouri filed a Motion to Intervene on December 31, 2002, and the Commission granted SBC Missouri's application on January 21, 2003. In its initial recommendation to the Commission, Staff recommended that the surcharge remain at its current level of \$0.09 per month per access line.

2. On January 31, 2003, the Commission issued an Order Directing Filing, requesting that Staff file a supplemental memorandum further explaining its recommendation that the surcharge remain at the current level given the large fund balance of \$6,488, 386 as of September 2002.

3. Staff filed its supplemental recommendation on February 10, 2003. Staff stated that based on updated projections and in consideration of other factors, it now recommends that the Commission increase the surcharge from \$0.09 to \$0.10 per month per access line. Staff also points out that since it filed its last recommendation, the fund balance has continued to steadily decline, and that as of January 31, 2003, the fund balance was \$4,989,072.

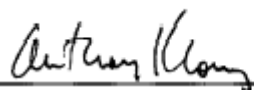
4. On February 19, 2003, the Commission issued an Order setting an On-the-Record Presentation so that the Commission may question Staff on its supplemental recommendation.

5. SBC Missouri respectfully requests that it be excused from attending the March 3, 2003, On-the-Record Presentation by Staff. SBC Missouri has not yet had an opportunity to fully review and evaluate Staff's recent supplemental recommendation. Moreover, counsel for SBC Missouri will be leaving for vacation on Tuesday, March 4; attending the On-the-Record Presentation by Staff on March 3 would impose an undue burden on counsel for SBC Missouri.

WHEREFORE, SBC Missouri respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion to be Excused from the On-the-Record Presentation set on March 3, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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D/B/A SBC MISSOURI

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing document were served on counsel for all parties below by e-mail on February 28, 2003.



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