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September 28, 1999

FILED<sup>2</sup>

SEP 29 1999

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
301 West High Street, Suite 530  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

To-2000-257

Re: In the Matter of the Interconnection Agreement of Sprint Missouri, Inc. d/b/a  
Sprint and Now Communications, Inc.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing with the Missouri Public Service Commission is an original and fourteen (14) copies of the Joint Application for Approval of the Interconnection Agreement between Sprint Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Sprint and Now Communications, Inc. Also enclosed is an original and five (5) copies of the proposed agreement.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (913) 345-7915.

Sincerely,

Linda K. Gardner

LKG:ket

Enclosures

cc: All Counsel of Record (w/ encl.)

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Case No. To 2000-257

basic local service in Case No. TA-98-390. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060(4)(E), NOW refers the Commission to the official case file in Case No. TA-98-390 and incorporates herein by reference any required documentation or information which has been previously provided to the Commission in that case.

Sprint Missouri, Inc. is a provider of basic local and interexchange telecommunications service. Sprint Missouri, Inc. has registered the fictitious name Sprint with the Missouri Secretary of State. Evidence of this registration was provided to this Commission in Case No. TO-97-53 (Re: United Telephone Company of Missouri's Adoption Notice Designed to Change the Company's Name to United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint) and Case No. TO-98-107 (Application of United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint for Approval of Name Change to Sprint Missouri, Inc.).

### III. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Sprint and Now Communications, Inc. seek the Commission's approval of the Agreement, consistent with the provisions of the Federal Act. Both parties believe that the implementation of this Agreement complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Federal Act because the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The Agreement promotes diversity in providers, provides interconnectivity, and increases customer choices for telecommunications services.

Sprint and Now Communications, Inc. respectfully request that the Commission grant expeditious approval of this Agreement, without change, suspension or other delay in its implementation.

#### IV. STANDARD FOR REVIEW

The statutory standards of review are set forth in Section 252(e) of the Federal Act which provides as follows:

Section 252(e) of the Federal Act:

- (e) Approval by State Commission
  - (1) Approval Required. Any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration shall be submitted for approval to the State commission. A State commission to which an agreement is submitted to shall approve or reject the agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies.
  - (2) Grounds for Rejection. The State commission may only reject-
    - (A) an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation under subsection (a) if it finds that-
      - (i) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or
      - (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity; or

The Joint Applicants state that the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity in that it allows for full and fair competition and greater choice for the consumer. The Joint Applicants further state that the Agreement does not discriminate against other carriers not a party to the Agreement as the terms of the Agreement are equally available to any other carrier.

#### V. MISSOURI LEGISLATION

The negotiated and executed Agreement is consistent with the Missouri Legislation, Senate Bill No. 507, which became effective on August 28, 1996

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Joint Applicants pray that the Commission approve the Agreement expeditiously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sprint Missouri, Inc.



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Attorney for Now Communications, Inc.

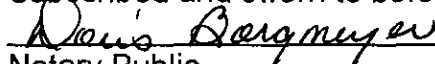
### VERIFICATIONS

I, Richard D. Lawson, an officer of Sprint Missouri, Inc. hereby verify and affirm that I have read the foregoing JOINT APPLICATION OF SPRINT MISSOURI, INC. AND NOW COMMUNICATIONS, INC. and that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.



Richard D. Lawson, State Vice President, MO and KS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29 day of September, 1999



Notary Public

My Appointment Expires: 12/17/2002

**DORIS BORGMEYER**  
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MISSOURI  
COUNTY OF COLE  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES DEC. 17, 2002

I, R. SCOTT SEAB, an officer of NOW COMMUNICATIONS, INC. hereby verify and affirm that I have read the foregoing JOINT APPLICATION OF SPRINT MISSOURI, INC. AND NOW COMMUNICATIONS, INC. and that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.



VP-Regulatory Affairs  
711 South Tejon St., Suite 201  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23 day of September, 1999.

 Diane C. Demingus  
Notary Public


My Appointment Expires: 12/14/2000

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on \_\_\_\_\_, 1999 copies of the above were mailed, by United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

Dan Joyce  
General Counsel - MOPSC  
301 West High Street, Suite 530  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Martha Hogerty  
Public Counsel - MOPSC  
301 West High Street, Suite 530  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda K. Gardner