

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

In the Matter of the Lifeline and Link Up)
Tariff Revisions Required by the Federal) File No. IO-2012-0301
Communications Commission.)

**THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL’S RESPONSE TO COMPANY’S
TARIFF FILING AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and for its Response to Company’s Tariff Filing and Request for Expedited Treatment states as follows:

1. On March 16, 2012, Alma Telephone Company (Company) filed its *Motion for Expedited Treatment and for Approval of Tariff Sheets on Less than Thirty Days’ Notice*. Concurrently, Company filed revised tariff sheets. Company stated that its tariffs must be revised by April 2, 2012, in order to comply with the new mandates for the Lifeline and Link Up programs as contained in the February 6, 2012, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in its Docket No. 11-42, *In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization* (Report and Order).
2. On March 21, 2012, Company filed Substitute Tariff Sheets.
3. Company’s proposed tariff filing and request for expedited treatment only affect an existing Federal benefit for qualifying disabled and/or low income customers and do not affect the overall rates and charges approved by the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) for services offered to customers. Therefore, Public Counsel

now states that it has no objection to Company's request that the Commission approve the proposed tariff sheets effective on or after April 2, 2012.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully submits its Response.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

/s/ Christina L. Baker

By:_____

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 28th day of March 2012:

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