

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

In the Matter of the Assessment Against)	
the Public Utilities in the State of Missouri)	Case No. AO-2004-0610
for the Expenses of the Commission for)	
the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2004)	

**SBC MISSOURI'S
APPLICATION TO INTERVENE**

SBC Missouri,¹ pursuant to Section 386.420 RSMo (2000) and 4 CSR 240-2.075, respectfully seeks to intervene in this proceeding. In support of its application, SBC Missouri states:

1. SBC Missouri is a Texas partnership duly authorized to conduct business in Missouri with its principal Missouri office at One SBC Center, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. SBC Missouri is a "local exchange telecommunications company" and a "public utility," and is duly authorized to provide "telecommunications service" within the State of Missouri as each of those phrases are defined in §386.020 RSMo (1994).²

2. All correspondence, pleadings, orders, decisions and communications regarding this proceeding should be sent to:

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¹ Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri, will be referred to in this pleading as "SBC Missouri."

² All statutory cites are to the Missouri Revised Statutes.

3. As a public utility, SBC Missouri is subject to the annual utility Assessment Order issued by the Commission pursuant to Section 386.370 RSMo. Because SBC Missouri pays a share of the assessment, SBC Missouri has an interest in this case.

4. In this proceeding, Applicant Missouri-American Water questions the Commission's inclusion in the fiscal year 2005 assessment amounts associated with an assessment made by the Department of Economic Development and the Office of Administration on the Commission for certain government support services for these organizations and other State agencies. Section 386.370.4 RSMo provides that the Public Service Commission fund "shall be devoted solely to the payment of expenditures actually incurred by the commission and attributable to the regulation of such public utilities. . . ." SBC Missouri concurs with Applicant that the depletion of the Fund for any purpose other than is authorized by law adversely impacts Missouri utilities and their customers. Any reserve left in the fund at the end of a particular fiscal year is carried over into the next year and reduces the following year's assessment.³ Any reduction in the Fund's reserve to facilitate unauthorized costs can result in higher assessments in the following years than would otherwise be necessary.

4. SBC Missouri seeks to intervene in this proceeding because its interests differ from those of the general public. No other party to this proceeding will adequately protect SBC Missouri's interest.

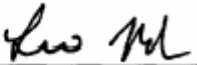
5. Granting of this intervention will be in the public interest because SBC Missouri will bring to this proceeding its expertise in the areas being investigated and its experiences as a telecommunications provider.

³ Section 386.370.4.

WHEREFORE, SBC Missouri respectfully requests the Commission to grant this Application to Intervene.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE, L.P.
D/B/A SBC MISSOURI

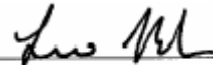
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Copies of this document were served on the following parties by electronic mail on August 3, 2004.



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