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March 17, 2003

FILED²

MAR 17 2003

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

Dale Hardy Roberts
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Case No. IO-2003-0012

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of BPS Telephone Company, please find an original and eight (8) copies of a Request for Extension of Time to File Initial Brief.

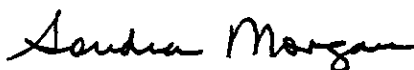
Would you please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:



Sondra B. Morgan

SBM/lar
Enclosure

cc: Cliff Snodgrass
Michael Dandino
Lisa Winberry

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

FILED²

MAR 17 2003

In the Matter of BPS Telephone)
Company's Election to be Regulated)
under Price Cap Regulation as Provided)
in Section 392.245, RSMo 2000.)

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

Case No. IO-2003-0012

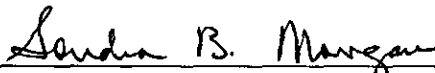
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE INITIAL BRIEF

Comes now BPS Telephone Company ("BPS") and for its Request for Extension of Time to File Initial Brief states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

1. On March 5, 2003, the Commission issued its Notice of Briefing Schedule in this case in which it stated that simultaneous Initial Briefs were due March 28, 2003, and Reply Briefs were due April 17, 2003.
2. It will be necessary for counsel for BPS will be out of the office this week because of a family illness. Therefore, BPS requests that the Commission grant its request for an extension of one week for the filing of simultaneous initial briefs until April 4, 2003. Simultaneous reply briefs would then be due April 24, 2003.
3. Counsel for the Staff and the Office of Public Counsel have been contacted regarding this request for extension and have no objection.

Wherefore, BPS respectfully requests that the Commission grant its request for an extension of time to file initial briefs and issue its order extending the briefing schedule as set out above.

Respectfully submitted,



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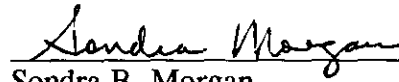
Attorneys for BPS Telephone Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered on this 17th day of March , 2003, to the following parties:

Mr. Cliff Snodgrass
Senior Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Michael F. Dandino
Office of Public Counsel
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Sondra B. Morgan