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May 24, 2002

Secretary of Public Service Commission
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

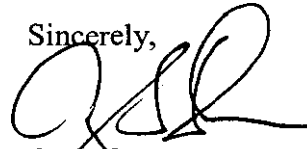
Re: Case No.TC-2002-194

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find an original and eight (8) copies of Petitioners' Notice of Dismissal of Respondent e.spire Communications, Inc.

Thank you for seeing this filed.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Johnson

CSJ:tr
Enc.

cc: MITG Managers
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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI**

**Alma Telephone Company, Chariton
Valley Telecommunications Corp.,
Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-
Missouri Telephone Company, Modern
Telecommunications Company, MoKan
Dial, Inc., and Northeast Missouri Rural
Telephone Company,**

Petitioners,

VS.

Case No. TC-2002-194

**Southwestern Bell Telephone Company,
Sprint Missouri Inc.,
AT&T,
Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc.,
e.spire Communications, Inc.,
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc.,
lonex Communications, Inc.,
Logix Communications Corp.,
MCI WORLDCOM Communications
Inc.
McCleodUSA Telecommunication
Services Inc.,
Mpower Communications Central Corp.)
Navigator Telecommunications, LLC)
NuVox Communications of Missouri, Inc.)
Ominplex Communications Group, LLC,
Teligent, Inc.**

Respondents.)

NOTICE OF DISMISSAL OF RESPONDENT e.spire COMMUNICATIONS INC.

COME NOW Petitioners, Alma Telephone Company, Chariton Valley
Telecommunications Corp., Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company,
Modern Telecommunications Company, MoKan Dial, Inc., and Northeast Missouri Rural

Telephone Company ("Petitioners"), and hereby place the Commission on Notice that the claims pending in this proceeding against e.spire Communications, Inc. are being dismissed by virtue of a pending bankruptcy proceeding involving e.spire Communications.

In support hereof, Petitioners state as follows:

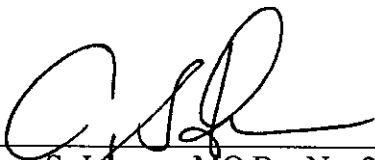
1. At the time this proceeding was initiated, Petitioners had received traffic summary reports from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company indicating traffic originated by e.spire Communications, Inc. was being transported by Southwestern Bell and terminated to Petitioners in the absence of any interconnection agreement therefor.

2. Counsel for e.spire Communications, Inc. has just communicated with counsel for Petitioners. In this communication e.spire has indicated they just received notice of or service of the Complaint which is the subject matter of this proceeding. E.spire further announces that they have filed a Chapter XI bankruptcy reorganization petition on March 22, 2001, in Delaware, Case No. 01-00974. At the time of this contact, e.spire was under auction.

3. In light of the above, e.spire has requested that it be dismissed from this case, as there may be an argument that continued processing of this case with respect to e.spire may violate a bankruptcy stay. E.spire has also requested it be dismissed from this case to avoid any unnecessary clouds arising during due diligence following any purchase of e.spire during the bankruptcy supervised auction.

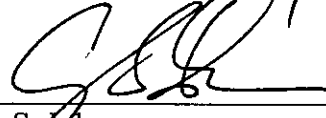
WHEREFORE, on the basis of foregoing, the MITG companies hereby give notice to the Commission and all parties that their claim against e.spire, and e.spire alone, are being dismissed by reason of the United States Bankruptcy proceeding.

ANDERECK, EVANS, MILNE,
PEACE & JOHNSON, L.L.C.

By 
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ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONERS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was mailed, via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, this 2nd day of May, 2002, to all attorneys of record in this proceeding.


Craig S. Johnson