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POST OFFICE BOX 360 JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102 573-751-3234 573-751-1847 (Fax Number) 573-526-5695 (TT) http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/psc/

August 25, 1997

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Chief Administrative Law Judge DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

James C. Stroo GTE Telephone Operations 1000 GTE Drive, MO611LGW PO Box 307 Wentzville, Missouri 63385-0307

Re:

Case No. TO-98-23

Dear Mr. Stroo:

KILED

AUG 25 1997

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

On July 16, 1997, you submitted to the Commission several purported interconnection agreements, all of which were submitted with a single cover letter and no petition.

The Commission is aware of the fact that the Act requires all agreements to be submitted to the appropriate state Commission for approval. The recent Eighth Circuit opinion in <u>Iowa Utilities Board v. Federal Communications Commission</u>, No. 96-3321, et al. has created a new uncertainty by leaving the state Commission the decision of which preexisting agreements must be approved and, in Missouri no independent decision has been taken on that issue. Although these agreements were file-stamped and assigned a case number, the cases will be closed because they present no issue for Commission decision as submitted.

In order for the Commission to take action on any interconnection agreements submitted they must be refiled with an appropriate pleading citing the authority under which they are filed and the action which is requested by the filing party. In addition, each agreement should be filed separately

along with a petition asking for approval that cites the statutory authority on which the request is based. I would ask that you contact counsel for the other parties to these agreements to ensure that the agreement is filed only once. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Dale Hardy Roberts

Chief Administrative Law Judge