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Witness: David Murray
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Case No.: TT-2001-328

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

DAVID MURRAY

OREGON FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

CASE NO. TT-2001-328

Jefferson City, Missouri
March, 2001

****Denotes Highly Confidential Information****

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Service Commission

Rebuttal Testimony of
David Murray

1 A. My testimony is presented to provide support for my recommendation to the
2 Commission as to a fair and reasonable rate of return for the Missouri jurisdictional small
3 telephone company rate base of Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
4 (Oregon Farmers).

5 Q. Have you prepared any schedules to your analysis of the cost of capital for
6 Oregon Farmers?

7 A. Yes. I am sponsoring a study entitled "An Analysis of the Cost of Capital for
8 Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Case No. TT-2001-328" consisting of
9 20 schedules, which are attached to this direct testimony.

10 Q. What do you conclude is the cost of capital for Oregon Farmers?

11 A. My analysis leads me to conclude that the current cost of capital for Oregon
12 Farmers is 10.60 percent.

13 **Determination of the Cost of Capital**

14 Q. Please describe the approach for determining a utility company's cost of
15 capital.

16 A. The total dollars of capital for the utility company are determined as of a
17 specific point in time. This total dollar amount is then proportioned into each specific capital
18 component. A weighted cost for each capital component is determined by multiplying each
19 capital component ratio by the appropriate embedded cost or by the estimated cost of
20 common equity component. The individual weighted costs are summed to arrive at a total
21 weighted cost of capital. This total weighted cost of capital is synonymous with the fair rate
22 of return for the utility company.

23 Q. Why is a total weighted cost of capital synonymous with a fair rate of return?

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1 A. From a financial viewpoint, a company employs different forms of capital to
2 support or fund the assets of the company. These funds are invested proportionately to
3 support each dollar of the company's assets. Each different form of capital has a cost and
4 these costs are weighted proportionately to fund each dollar invested in the assets.

5 Assuming that the various forms of capital are within a reasonable balance and are
6 costed correctly, the resulting total weighted cost of capital, when applied to rate base, will
7 provide the funds necessary to service the various forms of capital. Thus, the total weighted
8 cost of capital corresponds to a fair rate of return for the utility company.

9 **Capital Structure and Embedded Costs**

10 Q. What capital structure have you employed in developing a weighted cost of
11 capital for Oregon Farmers?

12 A. I have employed the capital structure that existed as of December 31, 2000 for
13 Oregon Farmers. Schedule 20 presents Oregon Farmers' capital structure and associated
14 capital ratios. The resulting capital structure consists of ** _____ ** common equity
15 and ** _____ ** long-term debt.

16 Q. What was the embedded cost of long-term debt for Oregon Farmers at
17 December 31, 2000?

18 A. I determined the embedded cost of long-term debt for Oregon Farmers at
19 December 31, 2000, to be 7.11 percent (see Schedule 19).

20 **Cost of Equity**

21 Q. How did you analyze those factors by which the cost of equity for Oregon
22 Farmers may be determined?

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1 A. Because Oregon Farmers does not have stock that is publicly traded, I
2 performed an analysis of the cost of equity of a comparable group of five publicly traded
3 telephone companies. I have used a weighted average of the discounted cash flow (DCF)
4 model, the risk premium model and the capital asset pricing model (CAPM). I weighted
5 these estimates as follows: DCF-75 percent, risk premium-10 percent, and
6 CAPM-15 percent.

7 **The DCF Model**

8 Q. Please describe the DCF model.

9 A. The DCF model is a market-oriented approach for deriving the cost of equity.
10 The return on equity calculated from the DCF model is inherently capable of attracting
11 capital. This results from the theory that security prices adjust continually over time, so that
12 an equilibrium price exists and the stock is neither undervalued nor overvalued. It can also
13 be stated that stock prices continually fluctuate to reflect the required and expected return for
14 the investor.

15 The continuous growth form of the DCF model was used in this analysis. This model
16 relies upon the fact that a company's common stock price is dependent upon the expected
17 cash dividends and upon cash flows received through capital gains or losses that result from
18 stock price changes. The interest rate which discounts the sum of the future expected cash
19 flows to the current market price of the common stock is the calculated cost of equity. This
20 can be expressed algebraically as:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 21 & \text{Present Price} = & \text{Expected Dividends} + \text{Expected Price in 1 year} & (1) \\ 22 & & \text{Discounted by } k & \text{Discounted by } k \end{array}$$

23 Since the expected price of a stock in one year is equal to the present price multiplied by one

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1 plus the growth rate, equation (1) can be restated as:

2 Present Price = $\frac{\text{Expected Dividends}}{(1 + k)} + \frac{\text{Present Price}(1+g)}{(1 + k)}$ (2)
3

4 where g equals the growth rate and k equals the cost of equity. Letting the present price
5 equal P_0 and expected dividends equal D_1 , the equation appears as:

6
7
$$P_0 = \frac{D_1}{(1 + k)} + \frac{P_0(1+g)}{(1 + k)}$$
 (3)
8
9

10 The cost of equity equation may also be algebraically represented as:

11
$$k = \frac{D_1}{P_0} + g$$
 (4)
12
13

14 Thus, the cost of common stock equity, k, is equal to the expected dividend yield (D_1/P_0) plus
15 the expected growth in dividends (g) continuously summed into the future. The growth in
16 dividends and implied growth in earnings will be reflected in the current price. Therefore,
17 this model also recognizes the potential of capital gains or losses associated with owning a
18 share of common stock.

19 The discounted cash flow method is a continuous stock valuation model. The DCF
20 theory is based on the following assumptions:

- 21 1. Market equilibrium;
22 2. Perpetual life of the company;
23 3. Constant payout ratio;
24 4. Payout of less than 100% earnings;
25 5. Constant price/earnings ratio;

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- 1 6. Constant growth in cash dividends;
- 2 7. Stability in interest rates over time;
- 3 8. Stability in required rates of return over time; and
- 4 9. Stability in earned returns over time.

5 Flowing from these, it is further assumed that an investor's growth horizon is
6 unlimited and that earnings, book values and market prices grow hand-in-hand. Even though
7 the entire list of the above assumptions is rarely met, the DCF model is a reasonable working
8 model describing an actual investor's expectations and resulting behaviors.

9 Q. Can you directly analyze the cost of equity for Oregon Farmers?

10 A. No. In order to arrive at a company-specific DCF result, the company must
11 have common stock that is market-traded and it must pay dividends. Oregon Farmers does
12 not have publicly traded stock. Therefore, as indicated earlier in my testimony, I determined
13 an initial cost of equity based on a comparable group of five publicly traded telephone
14 companies (comparables). Please see Schedule 1 for the criteria used to select the five
15 comparables.

16 Q. Please explain how you determined the growth term of the DCF formula for
17 the comparables.

18 A. I calculated the comparables' historical growth rates of actual dividends per
19 share (DPS), earnings per share (EPS) and book values per share (BVPS), as well as the
20 sustained growth rate. I also reviewed the projected growth rates for the comparables.
21 Schedules 4-1 through 4-5 lists annual compound growth rates and geometric growth rates
22 calculated for DPS, EPS and BVPS for the periods of 1989 through 1999 and 1994 through
23 1999. Schedule 7 presents the average of the five and ten-year historical DPS, EPS and

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1 BVPS growth rates. Also presented are the sustainable growth rates and the projected
2 growth rates for the comparables. The average of the historical growth rates is 7.53 percent.
3 The average of the sustainable growth rates is 11.27 percent. The projected growth rates
4 were obtained from three outside sources. I/B/E/S Inc.'s Institutional Brokers Estimate
5 System, September 14, 2000, projects a five-year average growth forecast of 13.32 percent
6 for the comparables. Standard & Poor's Corporation's Earnings Guide, September 2000,
7 projects a five-year EPS average growth rate of 13.80 percent for the comparables.
8 Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, July 7, 2000, projects the average
9 compound annual rate of growth for EPS during the next three to five years will be
10 14.80 percent for the comparables. Combining the historical growth rates, the sustainable
11 growth rates and the projected growth rates produces a reasonable growth rate of
12 12.14 percent. This rate of growth (g) is the rate that I used in the DCF model to calculate a
13 cost of common equity for the comparables.

14 Q. Please explain how you determined the yield term of the DCF formula for the
15 comparables.

16 A. The expected yield term (D_1/P_0) of the DCF model is calculated by dividing
17 the amount of common dividends per share expected to be paid over the next twelve months
18 (D_1) by the current market price per share of the firm's common stock (P_0). Even though the
19 model requires the use of a current spot market price, I have chosen to use a monthly
20 high/low average market price of the comparables' common stock for the period from
21 June 1, 2000 through September 29, 2000. This averaging technique is an attempt to
22 minimize the effects on the dividend yield that can occur due to daily volatility in the stock
23 market.

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1 Schedule 8 presents the monthly high / low average stock market prices from
2 June 1, 2000 through September 29, 2000, for the comparables.

3 I referred to the Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000, to
4 estimate the comparables' common dividend declared per share for the next twelve months
5 by averaging the projected dividend for 2000 and the projected dividend for 2001.
6 Column (1) of Schedule 9 illustrates these results.

7 Dividing the expected dividend in column (1) of Schedule 9 by the average high/low
8 stock price in column (2) results in the projected dividend yield in column (3). I calculated
9 the average dividend yield of the comparables to arrive at my projected dividend yield of
10 1.97 percent.

11 Q. Please summarize the results of your expected dividend yield and growth rate
12 analysis for the DCF return on equity for the comparables.

13 A. The summarized DCF cost of equity estimate for the comparables is presented
14 as follows:

15	<u>Yield (D_1/P_0)</u>	+	<u>Growth Rate (g)</u>	=	<u>Cost of Equity (k)</u>
16	1.97%	+	12.14%	=	14.11%

17 This cost of equity estimate was used in the weighted cost of equity calculation to determine
18 the comparables' cost of equity.

19 **The Risk Premium Model**

20 Q. What is the Risk Premium model?

21 A. The risk premium concept implies that the required return on equity is found
22 by adding an explicit premium for risk to a current interest rate. Schedules 10-1 through
23 10-5 show the average risk premium above the yield of the appropriately rated Mergent's

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1 Public Utility Bond for each of the comparables' expected return on common equity. My
2 analysis shows, on average, that the expected return on equity for the comparables is
3 17.80 percent (see Schedule 11). This cost of equity approach was not given the same weight
4 as the DCF approach because the DCF approach is predominately used by the Financial
5 Analysis Department to determine the cost of equity in rate cases involving publicly traded
6 companies. Additionally, the risk premium approach resulted in an estimated cost of equity
7 that is 369 basis points higher than the DCF results, and 521 basis points higher than the
8 CAPM results, causing some concern as to the validity of the risk premium results for this
9 case.

10 **The Capital Asset Pricing Model**

11 Q. What is the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)?

12 A. The CAPM describes the relationship between a security's investment risk and
13 its market rate of return. This relationship identifies the rate of return which investors expect
14 a security to earn so that its market return is comparable with the market returns earned by
15 other securities that have similar risk. The general form of the CAPM is as follows:

16
$$k = R_f + \beta (R_m - R_f)$$

17 where:

18 k = the expected return on equity for a specific security;

19 R_f = the risk-free rate;

20 β = beta; and

21 $R_m - R_f$ = the market risk premium.

22

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1 The first term of the CAPM is the risk-free rate (R_f). The risk-free rate reflects the
2 level of return that can be achieved without accepting any risk. In reality, there is no such
3 risk-free asset, but it is generally represented by U.S. Treasury securities. For purposes of
4 this analysis, the risk-free rate was represented by the yield on the 30-Year U.S. Treasury
5 Bond of 5.81 percent quoted in the October 17, 2000 issue of The Wall Street Journal.

6 The second term of the CAPM is beta (β). Beta is an indicator of a security's
7 investment risk. It represents the relative movement and relative risk between a particular
8 security and the market as a whole (where beta for the market equals 1.00). Securities with
9 betas greater than 1.00 exhibit greater volatility than do securities with betas less than 1.00.
10 This causes a higher beta security to be less desirable and therefore requires a higher return in
11 order to attract investor capital away from a lower beta security. Schedule 12 contains the
12 appropriate betas for the comparables.

13 The final term of the CAPM is the market risk premium ($R_m - R_f$). The market risk
14 premium represents the expected return from holding the entire market portfolio less the
15 expected return from holding a risk-free investment. For purposes of this analysis, the
16 appropriate market risk premium was determined to be 7.80 percent as calculated in Ibbotson
17 Associates, Inc.'s Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2000 Yearbook.

18 Schedule 12 presents the CAPM analysis with regard to the comparables. The CAPM
19 analysis produces an estimated cost of equity of 12.59 percent for the comparables. It should
20 be noted that recent debate has somewhat diminished the reliability of CAPM as a cost of
21 equity evaluation tool. As a result, I do not believe that CAPM analysis should be given
22 equal weight compared to the DCF cost of equity analysis.

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1 Q. Based on your analysis of the DCF, risk premium and CAPM cost of equity
2 results, what is your return on equity estimate for the comparables?

3 A. Based on my DCF, risk premium and CAPM analyses, I believe that the cost
4 of equity should be 14.25 percent based on the following weighted average calculation of
5 each of the cost of equity estimates (Schedule 13):

	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Cost of Equity</u>
6 DCF	75.00%	14.11%
7 Risk Premium	10.00%	17.80%
8 CAPM	15.00%	<u>12.59%</u>
9 Total		<u>14.25%</u>

10
11 Q. Do you believe that it is appropriate to apply the comparables' cost of equity
12 to Oregon Farmers?

13 A. Not on its own. Because I have seen a reduction in the number of
14 comparables used in the generic telephone studies over the past several years from eleven in
15 1997 to five in 2000, I have some concern that this reduction may allow specific company
16 characteristics to have a greater impact on the average cost of equity result. In order to
17 calculate a more accurate average, it is better to have a larger number of comparables.
18 Furthermore, in light of the recent trend for telecommunications companies to branch out into
19 higher growth segments such as wireless services, the comparables used tend to have more
20 nonregulated, high-growth operations that may cause the return on equity for these
21 operations to be higher than the return on equity for slow-growth, regulated operations.
22 Additionally, the stock prices of the technology sector in general and the telephone sector in
23 specific have been much lower than previous prices, and because the comparables tend to be
24 branching out into higher growth, nonregulated aspects of the telecommunications industry,

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1 the comparables' stock prices may be more depressed than the stock price of a
2 telecommunications company that tends to do more business in conservative, regulated
3 operations.

4 Q. How do you propose to address some of the concerns you noted in your
5 previous answer?

6 A. Because of the above concerns, I decided to use the 1997 Staff study,
7 "An Analysis of Generic Cost of Equity for Small Telephone Companies in Missouri" by
8 David Broadwater, CRRA and Robert B. Weinman III, and the 1999 Staff study,
9 "An Analysis of Generic Cost of Equity for Small Telephone Companies in Missouri" by
10 David Broadwater, CRRA and Eric S. Webster, as well as the 2000 study "An Analysis of
11 Generic Cost of Equity for Small Telephone Companies in Missouri" by David Murray, to
12 calculate averages of all three generic telephone studies to arrive at a range of cost of equity
13 estimates for small telephone companies with various capital structures. The use of the
14 average will help alleviate the concerns about the reduction of the number of comparables. It
15 will also help alleviate the concern about the comparables becoming more heavily invested in
16 nonregulated aspects of the telecommunications industry. Finally, it will smooth out any
17 uniqueness in the market situation that may have occurred this past year.

18 Q. Did you estimate a specific point cost of equity for the cost of equity for small
19 telephone companies or did you use a range for the various small telephone companies?

20 A. Realizing that as of the end of December 31, 1998, small telephone companies
21 in Missouri with fewer than 10,000 access lines had capital structures ranging from
22 26.02 percent equity to 100 percent equity with an average of 76.31 percent equity, I felt that
23 a financially sound methodology was needed to take into account the concept that the return

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1 on equity should be lower for a firm financed with 100 percent equity versus a company that
2 is much more heavily weighted in debt. From a conceptual perspective, financial theory
3 indicates that a company with debt has financial leverage and therefore, a certain level of
4 financial risk. If a company is financed with 100 percent equity, it doesn't have any financial
5 leverage and hence, it doesn't have any financial risk. Financial theory claims that if
6 financial risk exists, investors will expect a greater return on equity for them to incur that
7 risk. Conversely, if a company does not have debt, it does not have financial leverage or
8 resulting financial risk and therefore, investors will expect a lesser return on their investment.

9 Q. How do you propose to make adjustments to ROE to take into consideration
10 capital structure?

11 A. I used a methodology that modifies the beta used in the CAPM equation to
12 remove the risk associated with financial leverage from the beta used in the model. This is
13 commonly referred to as unlevering the beta as explained in Roger A. Morin's book,
14 "Regulatory Finance; Utilities Cost of Capital," on pages 348-352. The equation is as
15 follows:

$$\beta_L = \beta_U [1 + (1 - T)D/E]$$

16
17 where β_L is the observed levered beta, β_U is the unlevered beta of the company with no debt
18 in the capital structure, D/E is the ratio of debt to equity, and T is the corporate income tax
19 rate. This can be algebraically solved to determine unlevered beta:

$$\beta_U = \beta_L / [1 + (1 - T)D/E]$$

20
21 The objective in determining the unlevered beta is to determine what the beta would be for a
22 company when financial leverage and resulting financial risk is removed. This unlevered
23 beta would then be used in the CAPM to determine the estimated cost of equity for a firm

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1 that is financed without debt. If a firm does not have any debt, then there isn't any financial
2 risk to the shareholders because all earnings can accrue to the shareholders instead of having
3 to pay debt service to the debtholders. Therefore, a firm with debt inherently has more
4 financial risk, and will require a higher return on equity versus a lower return on equity for a
5 firm without debt. Additionally, a firm with fixed interest rate debt in its financial structure
6 will have a fixed interest expense. If revenues decrease for that company, it will have a more
7 dramatic impact on the return on equity for its shareholders because the company still has to
8 pay the fixed debt service expense to the debtholders. Alternatively, a company that doesn't
9 have debt will not have to pay this expense. Therefore, the return on equity for a firm with
10 debt in its financial structure will have greater volatility, causing its beta to be higher than a
11 comparable company with less debt in its financial structure. As a result, when one unlevers
12 the beta of a company with a higher degree of financial leverage, it will result in a larger
13 decrease in the beta than if the company had less financial leverage.

14 Q. Using the unlevered beta approach, what was the return on equity for a
15 company without any debt in its financial structure?

16 A. I subtracted the CAPM results using the unlevered betas from the CAPM
17 results using levered betas to arrive at an average unlevered adjustment (see Schedules 14, 15
18 and 16). In Schedule 17, I subtracted each respective unlevered adjustment from the
19 corresponding levered cost of equity recommended in each of the three studies used. I then
20 averaged these unlevered return on equity results to arrive at my recommended unlevered
21 11.30 percent return on equity, which can be used for a firm that is capitalized with
22 100 percent equity.

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1 Q. Did you estimate a return on equity for a company that is highly levered? If
2 so, how did you estimate this return on equity?

3 A. Yes I did. I reviewed the 2000, 1999 and 1997 telephone studies to determine
4 the highest cost of equity for each study. Because the overall recommended returns on equity
5 for the three studies were based on a weighted average of the discounted cash flow method,
6 the risk premium method and the CAPM method, I calculated the weighted average costs of
7 equity for each company in all three studies to determine the highest cost of equity in each
8 study. As shown in Schedule 18, the average of the highest cost of equity from each study is
9 15.29%. This was determined to be the highest cost of equity that may be allowed for a
10 highly levered firm.

11 Q. Did you develop a range based on the unlevered cost of equity of
12 11.30 percent and the average of the high costs of equity of 15.29 percent?

13 A. Yes. I used the 11.30 percent cost of equity as the low end of the range for the
14 recommended cost of equity for a company financed with 100 percent equity. I used the
15 15.29 percent cost of equity as the high end of the range for the recommended cost of equity
16 for a company financed with 100 percent debt. Companies with capital structures that fall in
17 between 100 percent equity and 100 percent debt would have an estimated cost of equity
18 somewhere within this range.

19 Q. The methodology used in this study appears to be different than what has been
20 used in cases involving electric, water and gas utilities. Is this technique appropriate for
21 other types of utilities?

22 A. I don't believe it is. Rate cases that involve electric, water and gas utilities
23 tend to involve larger companies that are publicly traded. The Financial Analysis

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1 Department has consistently applied the DCF model in these cases because information is
2 available to compute the cost of equity for that specific company. The telephone companies
3 involved in these cases are not publicly traded, so the cost of equity for these companies is
4 not directly observable through the use of the DCF model. The comparable company
5 approach is the customary approach to use when one has a company that is not publicly
6 traded. In this case, using this approach without modification was not appropriate because of
7 capital structure issues and because of the possible differences between regulated, potentially
8 low-growth business ventures and nonregulated, potentially high-growth business ventures.

9 **Rate of Return for Oregon Farmers**

10 Q. Please explain how the returns developed for each capital component are used
11 in the ratemaking approach you have adopted to be applied to Oregon Farmers' telephone
12 operations.

13 A. The cost of service ratemaking method was adopted in this case. This
14 approach develops the public utility's revenue requirement. The cost of service (revenue
15 requirement) is based on the following components: operation costs, rate base and a return
16 allowed on the rate base.

17 It is my responsibility to calculate and recommend a rate of return that should be
18 authorized on the telephone utility rate base for Oregon Farmers. Under the cost of service
19 ratemaking approach, a weighted cost of capital of 10.60 percent was developed for Oregon
20 Farmers' telephone operations (see Schedule 20). This rate was calculated by applying an
21 embedded cost of long-term debt of 7.11 percent and a return on common equity of
22 12.86 percent selected from the previously mentioned range to a capital structure consisting
23 of ** _____ ** long-term debt and ** _____ ** common equity. Therefore, as I

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1 stated earlier, I am recommending that Oregon Farmers' telephone operations be allowed to
2 earn a return on its original cost rate base of 10.60 percent.

3 Through my analysis, I believe that I have developed a fair and reasonable return that,
4 when applied to Oregon Farmers' utility rate base, will allow Oregon Farmers the
5 opportunity to earn the revenue requirement developed in this case.

6 Q. Does this conclude your prepared rebuttal testimony?

7 A. Yes, it does.

OREGON FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY
CASE NO. TT-2001-328

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE COST OF CAPITAL
FOR OREGON FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY
CASE NO. TT-2001-328**

BY

DAVID MURRAY

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 2001

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Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Criteria for Selecting Local Exchange Industry Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Telecommunication Companies	Stock Publicly Traded	Information Printed in Value Line	11 Years of DPS & EPS Information	Debt to Total Capital < 62%	Comparable Company Met All Criteria
1 ALLTEL Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 AT&T Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 Bell Atlantic Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 BellSouth Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5 COMSAT Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6 Century Tel Inc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7 Citizens Utilities Company	Yes	Yes	No		
8 Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises, Inc.	Yes	Yes	No		
9 Conestoga Enterprises, Inc.	Yes	No			
10 Dycom Industries, Inc.	Yes	Yes	No		
11 GTE Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
12 Gen'l Communication 'A'	Yes	Yes	No		
13 I-Link Corp.	Yes	No			
14 MCI WorldCom, Inc.	Yes	Yes	No		
15 SBC Communications, Inc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
16 Sprint Corporation	Yes	Yes	No		
17 Total-Tel USA Communications, Inc.	Yes	No			
18 United States Cellular Corporation	Yes	Yes	No		
19 eGlobe	Yes	Yes	No		
20 eLot Inc.	Yes	Yes	No		

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey: Summary & Index and Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000.
EDGAR Online, Inc.: InvestorGuide

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Five Telecommunications Companies

Number	Ticker Symbol	Company Name
1	AT	ALLTEL Corporation
2	T	AT&T Corporation
3	BLS	BellSouth Corporation
4	CTL	Century Tel Inc.
5	SBC	SBC Communications, Inc.

Note: Bell Atlantic and GTE have been removed due to their merger on June 30, 2000, to form Verizon.
COMSAT was removed because of negative historical growth.

Source: Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Interest Coverage, Common Equity Ratio, and Return on Common Equity for the Five Telecommunications Companies

Number	Company Name	Times Interest Earned (3/31/00)		Common Equity Ratio (1999)	Return on Common Equity (1999)
1	ALLTEL Corporation	5.70	x	52.87%	18.00%
2	AT&T Corporation	5.40	x	79.79%	6.40%
3	BellSouth Corporation	6.90	x	60.90%	25.60%
4	Century Tel Inc.	3.09	* x	46.40%	12.60%
5	SBC Communications	8.64	* x	59.10%	27.80%
	Average	<u>5.95</u>	x	<u>59.81%</u>	<u>18.08%</u>

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000
*3/31/00 SEC 10Q Reports (Edgar Online, Inc.)

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

ALLTEL Corporation

**Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value
Per Share Growth Rates**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dividends Per Share</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>	<u>Book Value Per Share</u>
1989	0.59	1.13	6.67
1990	0.66	1.17	6.35
1991	0.71	1.15	6.77
1992	0.76	1.25	7.01
1993	0.82	1.29	8.24
1994	0.90	1.60	8.60
1995	0.98	1.76	10.18
1996	1.06	1.92	11.15
1997	1.10	2.12	11.97
1998	1.18	2.09	11.86
1999	1.24	2.39	13.34

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	7.71%	7.78%	7.18%
1994 - 1999	6.62%	8.36%	9.18%

Geometric Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	7.40%	7.78%	7.18%
1994 - 1999	6.33%	8.36%	9.18%

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
Average of Historical Growth Rates:	7.01%	8.07%	8.18%
Standard Deviation:	0.56%	0.29%	1.00%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000 and January 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

AT&T Corporation

Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value Per Share Growth Rates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dividends Per Share</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>	<u>Book Value Per Share</u>
1989	0.80	1.67	7.89
1990	0.88	1.67	8.60
1991	0.88	0.27	8.26
1992	0.88	1.91	9.41
1993	0.88	2.10	6.83
1994	0.88	2.09	7.61
1995	0.88	0.79	7.22
1996	0.88	2.31	8.33
1997	0.88	1.83	9.30
1998	0.88	1.94	9.70
1999	0.88	1.74	24.69

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	0.96%	0.41%	12.08%
1994 - 1999	0.00%	-3.60%	26.54%

Geometric Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	0.96%	0.41%	12.08%
1994 - 1999	0.00%	-3.60%	26.54%

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
Average of Historical Growth Rates:	0.48%	-1.59%	19.31%
Standard Deviation:	0.48%	2.01%	7.23%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000 and January 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

BellSouth Corporation

Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value Per Share Growth Rates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dividends Per Share</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>	<u>Book Value Per Share</u>
1989	0.63	0.87	6.80
1990	0.67	0.85	6.63
1991	0.69	0.78	6.75
1992	0.69	0.85	6.99
1993	0.69	0.90	6.80
1994	0.69	1.05	7.24
1995	0.71	1.12	5.95
1996	0.72	1.27	6.68
1997	0.72	1.41	7.64
1998	0.73	1.65	8.26
1999	0.76	1.98	7.87

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	1.89%	8.57%	1.47%
1994 - 1999	1.95%	13.53%	1.68%

Geometric Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	1.89%	8.57%	1.47%
1994 - 1999	1.95%	12.74%	1.68%

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
Average of Historical Growth Rates:	1.92%	10.85%	1.58%
Standard Deviation:	0.03%	2.30%	0.11%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000 and January 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Century Tel Inc.

Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value Per Share Growth Rates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dividends Per Share</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>	<u>Book Value Per Share</u>
1989	0.12	0.22	2.49
1990	0.12	0.28	2.70
1991	0.13	0.36	3.02
1992	0.13	0.53	3.50
1993	0.14	0.58	4.45
1994	0.14	0.73	5.38
1995	0.15	0.85	6.64
1996	0.16	0.95	7.56
1997	0.17	1.09	9.46
1998	0.17	1.42	11.03
1999	0.18	1.65	13.15

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	4.14%	22.32%	18.11%
1994 - 1999	5.15%	17.72%	19.57%

Geometric Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	4.14%	20.41%	17.26%
1994 - 1999	5.15%	16.95%	19.19%

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
Average of Historical Growth Rates:	4.65%	19.35%	18.53%
Standard Deviation:	0.51%	2.15%	0.91%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000 and January 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

SBC Communications, Inc.

**Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value
Per Share Growth Rates**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dividends Per Share</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>	<u>Book Value Per Share</u>
1989	0.65	0.91	6.96
1990	0.69	0.92	7.15
1991	0.71	0.96	7.38
1992	0.73	1.09	7.76
1993	0.76	1.20	6.34
1994	0.79	1.37	6.86
1995	0.83	1.55	5.13
1996	0.86	1.73	5.70
1997	0.90	1.84	5.38
1998	0.94	2.08	6.52
1999	0.97	2.15	7.87

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	4.08%	8.98%	1.24%
1994 - 1999	4.19%	9.43%	2.79%

Geometric Growth Rates

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
1989 - 1999	3.97%	7.24%	1.24%
1994 - 1999	4.13%	8.43%	2.79%

	<u>DPS</u>	<u>EPS</u>	<u>BVPS</u>
Average of Historical Growth Rates:	4.10%	8.52%	2.01%
Standard Deviation:	0.08%	0.82%	0.77%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000 and January 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Expected Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share, & Return On Common Equity for the Five Telecommunications Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Company Name	2000 Projected DPS	2001 Projected DPS	Expected DPS	2000 Projected EPS	2001 Projected EPS	Expected EPS	2000 Projected ROE	2001 Projected ROE	Expected ROE
ALLTEL Corporation	\$1.28	\$1.34	\$1.31	\$2.70	\$3.20	\$2.95	18.50%	19.50%	19.00%
AT&T Corporation	\$0.88	\$0.88	\$0.88	\$1.75	\$2.05	\$1.90	6.50%	7.50%	7.00%
BellSouth Corporation	\$0.76	\$0.80	\$0.78	\$2.20	\$2.50	\$2.35	23.00%	23.50%	23.25%
Century Tel Inc.	\$0.19	\$0.22	\$0.21	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$1.93	12.50%	14.00%	13.25%
SBC Communications, Inc.	\$1.01	\$1.02	\$1.02	\$2.30	\$2.60	\$2.45	25.50%	24.50%	25.00%

Notes: Column 3 = [(Column 1 + Column 2) / 2]
Column 6 = [(Column 4 + Column 5) / 2]
Column 9 = [(Column 7 + Column 8) / 2]

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, July 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Sustainable Growth Rates for the Five Telecommunications Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Company Name	Expected DPS	Expected EPS	Expected ROE	Retention Rate	Sustainable Growth
ALLTEL Corporation	\$1.31	\$2.95	19.00%	55.59%	10.56%
AT&T Corporation	\$0.88	\$1.90	7.00%	53.68%	3.76%
BellSouth Corporation	\$0.78	\$2.35	23.25%	66.81%	15.53%
Century Tel Inc.	\$0.21	\$1.93	13.25%	89.35%	11.84%
SBC Communications, Inc.	\$1.02	\$2.45	25.00%	58.57%	14.64%
Average					11.27%

Notes: Column 4 = $[1 - (\text{Column 1} / \text{Column 2})]$
Column 5 = $[\text{Column 3} * \text{Column 4}]$

Sources: Reilly, Frank K. and Brown, Keith C., Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management: Fifth Edition,
The Dryden Press, Fort Worth, 1997, pp. 406-408.
Column 1 = Schedule 5.
Column 2 = Schedule 5.
Column 3 = Schedule 5.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Historical, Sustainable, & Projected Growth Rates for the Five Telecommunications Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Company Name	Historical Growth Rate (DPS, EPS, & BVPS)	Sustainable Growth	Projected 5 Year Growth IBES (mean)	Projected 5 Year EPS Growth (S&P)	Projected 3-5 Year EPS Growth (Value Line)	Average Historical, Expected, & Projected Growth
ALLTEL Corporation	7.75%	10.56%	15.00%	15.00%	15.50%	12.76%
AT&T Corporation	6.07%	3.76%	12.00%	14.00%	11.50%	9.46%
BellSouth Corporation	4.78%	15.53%	11.10%	11.00%	13.00%	11.08%
Century Tel Inc.	14.18%	11.84%	15.00%	16.00%	24.00%	16.20%
SBC Communications, Inc.	4.88%	14.64%	13.50%	13.00%	10.00%	11.20%
Average	7.53%	11.27%	13.32%	13.80%	14.80%	12.14%

Notes : Column 6 = [(Sum of Columns 1 through 5) / 5]

Sources: Column 1 = Average Historical DPS, EPS, & BVPS Growth Rates from Schedule 4.
Column 2 = Schedule 6.
Column 3 = I/B/E/S Inc.'s Institutional Brokers Estimate System (Utility Sector
Five Year Growth Rate-Company Data by Industry), September 14, 2000.
Column 4 = Standard & Poor's Corporation's Earnings Guide, September, 2000.
Column 5 = The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, July 7, 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

**Average High/Low Stock Price for June, 2000 through September, 2000
for the Five Telecommunications Companies**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	June 2000		July 2000		August 2000		September 2000		
Company Name	High Stock Price	Low Stock Price	High Stock Price	Low Stock Price	High Stock Price	Low Stock Price	High Stock Price	Low Stock Price	Average High/Low Stock Price
ALLTEL Corporation	\$68.812	\$61.562	\$65.000	\$59.000	\$64.750	\$49.312	\$54.937	\$47.750	\$58.890
AT&T Corporation	\$37.750	\$31.250	\$35.500	\$30.500	\$32.937	\$29.625	\$32.875	\$27.250	\$32.211
BellSouth Corporation	\$48.500	\$41.625	\$44.250	\$38.750	\$40.375	\$35.500	\$41.000	\$35.562	\$40.695
Century Tel Inc.	\$32.500	\$26.500	\$30.687	\$27.937	\$32.375	\$27.875	\$29.875	\$25.250	\$29.125
SBC Communications, Inc.	\$50.312	\$43.218	\$46.812	\$42.187	\$44.750	\$38.437	\$50.187	\$41.750	\$44.707

Notes: Column 9 = [(Sum of Columns 1 through 8) / 8]

Sources: Wall Street City - <http://www.tscn.com/wsc/>

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Cost of Equity Estimates for the Five Telecommunications Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Company Name	Expected Dividend	Average High/Low Stock Price	Projected Dividend Yield	Average Growth Rate	Cost of Common Equity
ALLTEL Corporation	\$1.31	\$58.890	2.22%	12.76%	14.98%
AT&T Corporation	\$0.88	\$32.211	2.73%	9.46%	12.19%
BellSouth Corporation	\$0.78	\$40.695	1.92%	11.08%	13.00%
Century Tel Inc.	\$0.21	\$29.125	0.70%	16.20%	16.90%
SBC Communications	\$1.02	\$44.707	2.27%	11.20%	13.47%
			<u>1.97%</u>	<u>12.14%</u>	<u>14.11%</u>

Notes: Column 3 = [Column 1 / Column 2]
Column 5 = [Column 3 + Column 4]

Sources: Column 1 = The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, July 7, 2000.
Average of 2000 estimated DPS and 2001 estimated DPS
Column 2 = Schedule 8.
Column 4 = Schedule 7.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Average Risk Premium Above the Yields of "A" Rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds for ALLTEL Corporation's Expected Returns on Common Equity

Mo/Year	ALLTEL's Expected ROE	"A" Rated Bonds		ALLTEL's Risk Premium	Mo/Year	ALLTEL's Expected ROE	"A" Rated Bonds		ALLTEL's Risk Premium
		Yields	Yields				Yields	Yields	
Jan 1983	18.00%	10.05%	10.05%	8.95%	Jan 1995	18.50%	8.17%	8.33%	10.33%
Feb	18.00%	10.07%	10.07%	7.93%	Feb	18.50%	8.25%	8.25%	10.25%
Mar	18.00%	10.23%	10.23%	7.77%	Mar	18.50%	8.37%	8.13%	10.13%
Apr	14.50%	10.15%	4.37%	4.37%	Apr	18.00%	8.27%	8.27%	10.27%
May	14.50%	8.97%	4.51%	4.51%	May	18.00%	7.81%	7.81%	11.09%
Jun	14.50%	9.64%	4.68%	4.68%	Jun	18.00%	7.60%	7.60%	11.40%
Jul	14.50%	9.50%	5.50%	5.50%	Jul	18.50%	7.70%	7.70%	11.20%
Aug	15.00%	8.57%	5.48%	5.48%	Aug	18.50%	7.83%	7.83%	10.67%
Sep	15.00%	8.57%	5.47%	5.47%	Sep	18.50%	7.82%	7.82%	10.68%
Oct	15.00%	8.64%	5.46%	5.46%	Oct	18.50%	7.48%	7.48%	11.04%
Nov	15.00%	8.81%	5.68%	5.68%	Nov	18.50%	7.45%	7.45%	11.07%
Dec	15.00%	8.44%	5.56%	5.56%	Dec	18.50%	7.23%	7.23%	11.27%
Jan 1990	15.50%	8.98%	5.64%	5.64%	Jan 1996	18.00%	7.22%	7.22%	10.78%
Feb	15.50%	8.77%	5.74%	5.74%	Feb	18.00%	7.37%	7.37%	10.63%
Mar	15.50%	8.83%	5.83%	5.83%	Mar	18.00%	7.77%	7.77%	10.27%
Apr	12.00%	8.27%	2.08%	2.08%	Apr	17.50%	7.88%	7.88%	8.61%
May	12.00%	10.00%	2.00%	2.00%	May	17.50%	7.80%	7.80%	8.70%
Jun	12.00%	8.80%	2.20%	2.20%	Jun	17.50%	8.05%	8.05%	8.44%
Jul	18.00%	9.75%	9.25%	9.25%	Jul	17.50%	8.07%	8.07%	9.48%
Aug	18.00%	8.67%	8.08%	8.08%	Aug	17.50%	7.46%	7.46%	9.04%
Sep	18.00%	10.12%	8.88%	8.88%	Sep	17.50%	8.01%	8.01%	9.49%
Oct	17.50%	10.05%	7.45%	7.45%	Oct	17.50%	7.77%	7.77%	8.73%
Nov	17.50%	8.80%	7.60%	7.60%	Nov	17.50%	7.59%	7.59%	8.91%
Dec	17.50%	8.73%	7.77%	7.77%	Dec	17.50%	7.77%	7.77%	8.73%
Jan 1991	18.00%	8.71%	8.29%	8.29%	Jan 1997	18.00%	7.64%	7.64%	10.36%
Feb	18.00%	8.83%	8.45%	8.45%	Feb	18.00%	7.87%	7.87%	10.13%
Mar	18.00%	8.83%	8.45%	8.45%	Mar	18.00%	7.87%	7.87%	10.13%
Apr	18.50%	8.44%	8.06%	8.06%	Apr	18.00%	8.05%	8.05%	8.97%
May	18.50%	8.44%	8.06%	8.06%	May	18.00%	7.88%	7.88%	10.11%
Jun	18.50%	8.58%	8.81%	8.81%	Jun	18.00%	7.77%	7.77%	10.28%
Jul	18.00%	8.65%	8.45%	8.45%	Jul	17.50%	7.46%	7.46%	10.02%
Aug	18.00%	8.29%	8.71%	8.71%	Aug	17.50%	7.81%	7.81%	8.69%
Sep	18.00%	8.19%	8.81%	8.81%	Sep	17.50%	7.70%	7.70%	10.03%
Oct	18.00%	8.17%	8.88%	8.88%	Oct	17.00%	7.35%	7.35%	8.65%
Nov	18.00%	8.29%	8.85%	8.85%	Nov	17.00%	7.25%	7.25%	8.75%
Dec	18.00%	8.39%	8.32%	8.32%	Dec	17.00%	7.38%	7.38%	8.62%
Jan 1992	17.50%	8.64%	8.60%	8.60%	Jan 1998	18.50%	7.64%	7.64%	9.86%
Feb	17.50%	8.37%	8.57%	8.57%	Feb	18.50%	7.12%	7.12%	8.38%
Mar	17.50%	8.37%	8.57%	8.57%	Mar	18.50%	7.16%	7.16%	8.34%
Apr	14.50%	8.37%	5.57%	5.57%	Apr	17.50%	7.16%	7.16%	10.34%
May	14.50%	8.27%	5.83%	5.83%	May	17.50%	7.03%	7.03%	10.37%
Jun	14.50%	8.27%	5.72%	5.72%	Jun	17.50%	7.03%	7.03%	10.37%
Jul	17.50%	8.44%	8.08%	8.08%	Jul	18.00%	7.00%	7.00%	11.00%
Aug	17.50%	8.44%	8.10%	8.10%	Aug	18.00%	6.83%	6.83%	11.07%
Sep	17.50%	8.40%	8.46%	8.46%	Sep	18.00%	6.86%	6.86%	11.04%
Oct	18.00%	8.45%	8.37%	8.37%	Oct	18.00%	7.03%	7.03%	10.87%
Nov	18.00%	8.43%	8.37%	8.37%	Nov	18.00%	6.81%	6.81%	11.09%
Dec	18.50%	8.27%	10.23%	10.23%	Dec	20.50%	6.87%	6.87%	13.33%
Jan 1993	18.50%	8.04%	10.46%	10.46%	Jan 1999	20.50%	7.09%	7.09%	13.41%
Feb	18.50%	7.80%	10.80%	10.80%	Feb	20.50%	7.26%	7.26%	13.24%
Mar	18.50%	7.81%	10.68%	10.68%	Mar	19.50%	7.27%	7.27%	12.28%
Apr	18.50%	7.86%	10.64%	10.64%	Apr	19.50%	7.47%	7.47%	12.03%
May	18.50%	7.86%	10.75%	10.75%	May	19.50%	7.74%	7.74%	11.76%
Jun	18.50%	7.73%	10.75%	10.75%	Jun	19.50%	7.71%	7.71%	11.29%
Jul	18.50%	7.25%	11.25%	11.25%	Jul	19.00%	7.81%	7.81%	11.09%
Aug	18.50%	7.04%	11.46%	11.46%	Aug	19.00%	7.83%	7.83%	11.07%
Sep	18.50%	7.03%	10.87%	10.87%	Sep	19.00%	8.06%	8.06%	10.44%
Oct	18.00%	7.30%	10.70%	10.70%	Oct	18.50%	7.84%	7.84%	10.56%
Nov	18.00%	7.34%	10.46%	10.46%	Nov	18.50%	8.14%	8.14%	10.36%
Dec	18.50%	7.33%	12.17%	12.17%	Dec	20.50%	8.35%	8.35%	12.15%
Jan 1994	18.50%	7.45%	12.08%	12.08%	Jan 2000	20.50%	8.25%	8.25%	12.25%
Feb	18.50%	7.85%	11.65%	11.65%	Feb	20.50%	8.25%	8.25%	12.25%
Mar	18.50%	8.23%	8.87%	8.87%	Mar	18.50%	8.25%	8.25%	10.21%
Apr	18.00%	8.33%	8.68%	8.68%	Apr	18.50%	8.70%	8.70%	9.80%
May	18.00%	8.31%	8.68%	8.68%	May	18.50%	8.36%	8.36%	10.14%
Jun	18.00%	8.47%	8.53%	8.53%	Jun	18.50%	8.28%	8.28%	10.25%
Jul	18.00%	8.41%	8.58%	8.58%	Jul	18.50%	8.13%	8.13%	10.37%
Aug	18.00%	8.64%	8.44%	8.44%	Aug	18.50%			
Sep	18.00%	8.86%	8.64%	8.64%					
Oct	17.50%	8.88%	8.44%	8.44%					
Nov	17.50%	8.88%	8.57%	8.57%					
Dec	17.50%	8.78%	8.74%	8.74%					

Summary Information (January 1988 - August 2000)

Average Risk Premium:

9.39%

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey; Ratings & Reports for each quarter.

Moody's Bond Record: January 1991 and January 1996;

Mergent Bond Record September 2000.

High Risk Premium:

13.53%

Low Risk Premium:

2.00%

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Average Risk Premium Above the Yields of "Aa" Rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds
for AT&T Corporation's Expected Returns on Common Equity

Mo/Year	AT&T's Expected ROE	"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields	AT&T's Risk Premium	Mo/Year	AT&T's Expected ROE	"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields	AT&T's Risk Premium
Jan 1988	21.00%	9.89%	11.11%	Jan 1995	28.50%	8.66%	19.84%
Feb	21.00%	9.93%	11.07%	Feb	28.50%	8.45%	20.05%
Mar	21.00%	10.05%	10.95%	Mar	28.50%	8.29%	20.21%
Apr	21.00%	10.02%	10.98%	Apr	28.50%	8.17%	20.33%
May	21.00%	9.78%	11.21%	May	28.50%	7.89%	20.61%
Jun	21.00%	9.37%	11.63%	Jun	28.50%	7.80%	20.70%
Jul	21.50%	9.23%	12.27%	Jul	28.50%	7.60%	20.90%
Aug	21.50%	9.27%	12.23%	Aug	28.50%	7.71%	20.79%
Sep	21.50%	9.35%	12.15%	Sep	28.50%	7.48%	21.02%
Oct	21.50%	9.28%	12.22%	Oct	31.00%	7.30%	23.70%
Nov	21.50%	9.25%	12.25%	Nov	31.00%	7.22%	23.78%
Dec	21.50%	9.26%	12.24%	Dec	31.00%	7.03%	23.97%
Jan 1990	21.50%	9.39%	12.11%	Jan 1998	30.50%	7.02%	23.48%
Feb	21.50%	9.57%	11.93%	Feb	30.50%	7.20%	23.30%
Mar	21.50%	9.80%	11.70%	Mar	30.50%	7.35%	22.95%
Apr	21.50%	9.81%	11.69%	Apr	29.50%	7.70%	21.80%
May	21.50%	9.83%	11.67%	May	29.50%	7.78%	21.71%
Jun	21.50%	9.80%	11.70%	Jun	29.50%	7.87%	21.63%
Jul	19.00%	9.61%	9.39%	Jul	28.00%	7.83%	20.17%
Aug	18.00%	8.78%	9.22%	Aug	28.00%	7.66%	20.34%
Sep	18.00%	8.87%	9.13%	Sep	28.00%	7.84%	20.16%
Oct	18.00%	8.77%	9.23%	Oct	23.50%	7.80%	18.19%
Nov	18.00%	8.89%	9.11%	Nov	23.50%	7.32%	18.18%
Dec	18.00%	8.42%	9.58%	Dec	23.50%	7.44%	18.06%
Jan 1991	18.50%	8.39%	9.11%	Jan 1997	28.50%	7.68%	18.82%
Feb	18.50%	8.16%	9.34%	Feb	28.50%	7.60%	18.90%
Mar	18.50%	8.25%	9.27%	Mar	28.50%	7.84%	18.66%
Apr	18.50%	8.14%	9.36%	Apr	28.50%	8.00%	11.50%
May	18.00%	8.16%	9.84%	May	19.50%	7.83%	11.65%
Jun	18.00%	8.38%	9.62%	Jun	19.50%	7.68%	11.82%
Jul	17.50%	8.29%	9.21%	Jul	19.50%	7.43%	12.07%
Aug	17.50%	8.06%	9.44%	Aug	19.50%	7.46%	12.04%
Sep	17.50%	8.33%	9.17%	Sep	19.50%	7.43%	12.07%
Oct	18.50%	8.32%	9.18%	Oct	19.00%	7.28%	11.72%
Nov	18.50%	8.87%	9.63%	Nov	19.00%	7.15%	11.85%
Dec	20.00%	8.71%	9.29%	Dec	19.00%	7.07%	11.83%
Jan 1992	20.00%	8.63%	11.37%	Jan 1998	20.00%	8.84%	13.06%
Feb	20.00%	8.76%	11.24%	Feb	20.00%	8.99%	13.01%
Mar	20.00%	8.82%	11.18%	Mar	20.00%	7.04%	12.96%
Apr	24.00%	8.78%	15.21%	Apr	16.00%	7.02%	8.91%
May	24.00%	8.69%	15.31%	May	16.00%	7.02%	8.88%
Jun	24.00%	8.63%	15.37%	Jun	16.00%	6.91%	8.09%
Jul	24.00%	8.45%	15.55%	Jul	16.50%	6.81%	8.39%
Aug	24.00%	8.36%	15.70%	Aug	16.50%	6.87%	9.63%
Sep	24.00%	8.28%	15.72%	Sep	16.50%	6.78%	9.72%
Oct	21.00%	8.42%	12.58%	Oct	14.00%	6.79%	7.21%
Nov	21.00%	8.51%	12.49%	Nov	14.00%	6.89%	7.11%
Dec	21.00%	8.32%	12.68%	Dec	14.00%	6.76%	7.22%
Jan 1993	20.50%	8.14%	12.36%	Jan 1999	23.50%	6.82%	16.60%
Feb	20.50%	7.92%	12.58%	Feb	23.50%	6.94%	16.56%
Mar	20.50%	7.79%	12.71%	Mar	23.50%	7.11%	16.39%
Apr	20.50%	7.44%	12.86%	Apr	22.00%	7.11%	14.89%
May	20.50%	7.54%	12.86%	May	22.00%	7.36%	14.62%
Jun	20.50%	7.54%	12.86%	June	22.00%	7.87%	14.33%
Jul	28.50%	7.38%	22.12%	July	8.50%	7.82%	0.80%
Aug	28.50%	7.07%	22.43%	Aug	8.50%	7.82%	0.68%
Sep	28.50%	6.89%	22.61%	Sept	8.50%	7.82%	0.68%
Oct	28.50%	6.89%	21.61%	Oct	8.50%	7.86%	0.54%
Nov	28.50%	7.17%	21.33%	Nov	8.50%	7.82%	0.68%
Dec	28.50%	7.18%	21.32%	Dec	8.50%	8.00%	0.50%
Jan 1994	28.00%	7.16%	18.82%	Jan 2000	8.00%	8.17%	-0.17%
Feb	28.00%	7.34%	18.66%	Feb	8.00%	7.99%	0.01%
Mar	28.00%	7.74%	18.26%	March	8.00%	7.99%	0.01%
Apr	28.00%	8.12%	18.85%	Apr	8.00%	8.00%	0.00%
May	28.00%	8.24%	19.76%	May	8.00%	8.44%	-0.44%
Jun	28.00%	8.21%	19.79%	June	8.00%	8.10%	-0.10%
Jul	28.00%	8.36%	19.62%	July	6.50%	8.10%	-1.60%
Aug	28.00%	8.32%	19.68%	Aug	6.50%	7.95%	-1.45%
Sep	30.00%	8.54%	19.44%				
Oct	30.00%	8.78%	21.22%				
Nov	30.00%	8.90%	21.10%				
Dec	30.00%	8.88%	21.31%				

Summary Information (January 1989 - August 2000)

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey; Ratings & Reports for each quarter.
Moody's Bond Record; January 1991 and January 1996;
Mergent Bond Record September 2000.

Average Risk Premium: 13.14%
High Risk Premium: 23.97%
Low Risk Premium: -1.60%

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Average Risk Premium Above the Yields of "Aa" Rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds for BellSouth Corporation's Expected Returns on Common Equity

Mo/Year		BellSouth's Expected ROE		BellSouth's Risk Premium		"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields		BellSouth's Expected ROE		"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields		BellSouth's Risk Premium	
Jan 1989		11.50%		3.61%		9.89%		18.00%		8.68%		9.34%	
Jan	1989	11.50%		3.61%		9.89%		18.00%		8.68%		9.34%	
Feb		11.50%		3.57%		9.93%		18.00%		8.65%		9.35%	
Mar		11.50%		3.45%		10.05%		18.00%		8.29%		8.71%	
Apr		11.50%		3.48%		10.02%		18.00%		8.17%		8.33%	
May		11.50%		3.71%		9.79%		18.00%		7.86%		8.70%	
Jun		11.50%		4.13%		9.37%		18.00%		7.48%		8.02%	
Jul		11.50%		4.27%		9.23%		18.00%		7.66%		7.86%	
Aug		11.50%		4.37%		9.27%		18.00%		7.71%		7.79%	
Sep		11.50%		4.15%		9.35%		18.00%		7.48%		8.02%	
Oct		11.50%		3.72%		9.28%		18.00%		7.36%		8.02%	
Nov		11.50%		3.75%		9.25%		18.00%		7.22%		8.02%	
Dec		11.50%		3.74%		9.28%		18.00%		7.03%		8.02%	
Jan 1990		11.50%		3.61%		9.39%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Feb		11.50%		3.47%		9.57%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Mar		11.50%		3.40%		9.60%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Apr		11.50%		3.69%		9.81%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
May		11.50%		3.87%		9.63%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jun		11.50%		3.80%		9.60%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jul		14.00%		4.39%		9.61%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Aug		14.00%		4.22%		9.78%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Sep		14.00%		4.13%		9.87%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Oct		11.50%		3.73%		9.77%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Nov		11.50%		3.81%		9.69%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Dec		11.50%		4.05%		9.42%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jan 1991		11.50%		4.81%		8.69%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Feb		14.00%		4.84%		8.16%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Mar		14.00%		4.77%		8.23%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Apr		11.50%		4.36%		8.14%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
May		11.50%		4.34%		8.16%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jun		11.50%		4.25%		8.25%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jul		11.50%		4.26%		8.26%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Aug		11.50%		3.84%		8.66%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Sep		11.50%		4.67%		8.83%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Oct		12.00%		3.05%		8.92%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Nov		12.00%		3.13%		8.87%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Dec		12.00%		3.28%		8.71%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jan 1992		12.50%		3.87%		8.63%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Feb		12.50%		3.74%		8.76%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Mar		12.50%		3.65%		8.82%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Apr		12.50%		3.81%		8.69%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
May		12.50%		3.87%		8.63%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jun		12.50%		4.05%		8.45%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jul		12.50%		4.26%		8.29%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Aug		12.50%		4.20%		8.30%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Sep		12.50%		4.22%		8.28%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Oct		12.00%		3.65%		8.35%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Nov		12.00%		3.48%		8.51%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Dec		12.00%		3.85%		8.15%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jan 1993		12.50%		4.36%		8.14%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Feb		12.50%		4.58%		7.82%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Mar		12.50%		4.74%		7.78%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Apr		12.50%		4.65%		7.84%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
May		12.50%		4.95%		7.54%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jun		12.00%		4.82%		7.68%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jul		12.00%		4.83%		7.67%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Aug		12.00%		5.11%		7.39%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Sep		12.00%		5.11%		7.39%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Oct		12.00%		4.83%		7.17%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Nov		12.00%		4.82%		7.18%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Dec		13.50%		6.32%		7.16%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jan 1994		13.50%		6.16%		7.34%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Feb		13.50%		5.76%		7.74%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Mar		13.50%		6.85%		6.89%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Apr		13.00%		6.76%		6.24%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
May		13.00%		6.79%		6.21%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jun		15.00%		6.82%		6.18%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Jul		15.00%		6.85%		6.15%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Aug		15.00%		6.44%		6.56%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Sep		15.00%		6.44%		6.56%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Oct		14.50%		5.72%		6.78%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Nov		14.50%		5.60%		6.90%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Dec		14.50%		5.81%		6.69%		18.00%		7.02%		8.02%	
Summary Information (January 1989 - August 2000)												Average Risk Premium: 8.39%	
												High Risk Premium: 18.01%	
												Low Risk Premium: 3.08%	

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey; Ratings & Reports for each quarter.
Moody's Bond Record: January 1991 and January 1996;
Mergent Bond Record September 2000.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Average Risk Premium Above the Yields of "Baa" Rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds for Century Tel Inc. Corporation's Expected Returns on Common Equity

Century Tels			Century Tels			Century Tels			Century Tels					
Month	Year	Expected ROE	Yield	Premium	Month	Year	Expected ROE	Yield	Premium	Month	Year	Expected ROE	Yield	Premium
Jan 1988		12.50%	10.33%	2.17%	Jan 1995		15.50%	8.93%	6.57%	Jan 1998		15.50%	8.93%	6.57%
Feb		12.50%	10.50%	2.00%	Mar		15.50%	8.78%	6.72%	Feb		15.50%	8.78%	6.72%
Mar		12.50%	10.48%	2.01%	Apr		14.50%	8.67%	5.83%	Mar		14.50%	8.67%	5.83%
Apr		12.50%	10.29%	2.21%	May		14.50%	8.50%	6.00%	Apr		14.50%	8.50%	6.00%
May		12.50%	9.80%	2.70%	Jun		15.00%	8.01%	6.99%	May		15.00%	8.01%	6.89%
Jun		8.50%	8.64%	-0.14%	Jul		15.00%	8.11%	6.89%	Jun		15.00%	8.11%	6.89%
Jul		8.50%	8.64%	-0.14%	Aug		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%	Jul		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%
Aug		8.50%	8.77%	-0.20%	Sep		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%	Aug		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%
Sep		8.50%	8.64%	-0.14%	Oct		14.50%	8.15%	6.35%	Sep		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%
Oct		8.50%	8.44%	-0.10%	Nov		14.50%	8.15%	6.35%	Oct		15.00%	8.24%	6.76%
Nov		8.50%	8.44%	-0.10%	Dec		14.50%	8.15%	6.35%	Nov		14.50%	8.15%	6.35%
Dec		8.00%	8.76%	-0.76%	Jan 1996		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		14.50%	8.15%	6.35%
Jan 1990		8.00%	10.13%	-2.13%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jan 1999		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Feb		8.00%	10.15%	-2.15%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Mar		8.00%	9.85%	-1.85%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Apr		8.00%	9.85%	-1.85%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
May		8.00%	10.17%	-0.17%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jun		8.00%	10.33%	-0.33%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jul		10.00%	10.33%	-0.33%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Aug		10.00%	10.23%	-0.23%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Sep		10.00%	10.12%	-0.12%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Oct		10.00%	10.00%	0.00%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Nov		10.00%	9.85%	-0.15%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Dec		10.00%	9.85%	-0.15%	Jan 1997		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jan 1991		10.00%	10.00%	0.00%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jan 1998		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Feb		10.00%	10.00%	0.00%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Mar		10.00%	9.75%	-0.25%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Apr		11.00%	9.64%	-1.36%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
May		11.00%	9.79%	-1.21%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jun		11.00%	9.89%	-1.01%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jul		10.50%	9.89%	-0.61%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Aug		10.50%	9.47%	-1.03%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Sep		10.50%	9.34%	-1.16%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Oct		10.50%	9.32%	-1.22%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Nov		10.50%	9.07%	-1.43%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Dec		12.50%	8.88%	-1.52%	Jan 1998		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jan 1992		12.50%	9.07%	-1.43%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jan 1999		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Feb		12.50%	9.16%	-1.34%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Mar		12.50%	9.16%	-1.34%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Apr		13.00%	8.91%	-1.39%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
May		13.00%	8.80%	-1.40%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jun		13.00%	8.69%	-1.41%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jul		13.50%	8.58%	-1.42%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Aug		13.50%	8.44%	-1.46%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Sep		13.50%	8.44%	-1.46%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Oct		14.50%	8.46%	-1.54%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Nov		14.50%	8.46%	-1.54%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Dec		14.50%	8.46%	-1.54%	Jan 1999		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jan 1993		15.50%	8.47%	-1.19%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jan 2000		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Feb		15.50%	8.31%	-1.19%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Mar		15.50%	8.10%	-1.40%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Apr		16.00%	8.11%	-1.78%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
May		16.00%	8.16%	-1.78%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jun		16.00%	8.03%	-1.97%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jul		16.50%	7.94%	-2.56%	Aug		16.00%	8.16%	-1.84%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Aug		16.50%	7.59%	-2.91%	Sep		16.00%	8.16%	-1.84%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Sep		16.50%	7.53%	-2.97%	Oct		16.00%	8.16%	-1.84%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Oct		16.50%	7.27%	-3.23%	Nov		16.00%	8.16%	-1.84%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Nov		14.50%	7.68%	-6.81%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Dec		14.50%	7.77%	-6.77%	Jan 2000		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jan 1994		15.00%	7.65%	-7.34%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jan 2001		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Feb		15.00%	7.78%	-7.22%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Feb		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Mar		15.00%	8.11%	-6.89%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Mar		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Apr		12.50%	8.47%	-4.03%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Apr		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
May		12.50%	8.61%	-3.89%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	May		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jun		12.50%	8.64%	-3.86%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jun		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Jul		14.00%	8.40%	-5.20%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Jul		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Aug		14.00%	8.24%	-5.02%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Aug		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Sep		14.00%	8.08%	-4.26%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Sep		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Oct		13.50%	8.34%	-4.15%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Oct		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Nov		13.50%	8.35%	-4.34%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Nov		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Dec		13.50%	8.16%	-4.34%	Jan 2001		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%	Dec		15.50%	8.15%	7.35%
Summary Information (January 1988 - August 2000)														
Average Risk Premium: 4.37%														

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey; Ratings & Reports for each quarter.

Moody's Bond Record: January 1991 and January 1996:

Mergent Bond Record September 2000.

High Risk Premium:	9.15%
Low Risk Premium:	-2.16%

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Average Risk Premium Above the Yields of "Aa" Rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds
for SBC Communications, Inc.'s Expected Returns on Common Equity

Mo/Year	SBC's Expected ROE	"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields	SBC's Risk Premium	Mo/Year	SBC's Expected ROE	"Aa" Rated Bonds Yields	SBC's Risk Premium
Jan 1988	12.50%	9.89%	2.61%	Jan 1995	20.00%	11.34%	8.66%
Feb	12.50%	9.83%	2.67%	Feb	20.00%	11.55%	8.45%
Mar	12.50%	10.05%	2.45%	Mar	20.00%	12.29%	7.71%
Apr	12.50%	10.02%	2.48%	Apr	20.00%	11.83%	8.17%
May	12.50%	9.77%	2.71%	May	20.00%	12.20%	7.80%
Jun	12.50%	9.33%	3.13%	Jun	20.00%	12.40%	7.60%
Jul	13.00%	9.37%	3.77%	Jul	20.00%	12.29%	7.71%
Aug	13.00%	9.27%	3.73%	Aug	20.00%	12.52%	7.48%
Sep	13.00%	9.35%	3.65%	Sep	20.00%	12.20%	7.80%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jan 1990	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jan 1996	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Feb	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Feb	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Mar	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Mar	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Apr	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Apr	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
May	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	May	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jun	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jun	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jul	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jul	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Aug	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Aug	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Sep	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Sep	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jan 1991	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jan 1997	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Feb	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Feb	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Mar	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Mar	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Apr	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Apr	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
May	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	May	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jun	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jun	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jul	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jul	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Aug	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Aug	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Sep	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Sep	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jan 1992	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jan 1998	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Feb	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Feb	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Mar	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Mar	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Apr	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Apr	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
May	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	May	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jun	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jun	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jul	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jul	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Aug	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Aug	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Sep	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Sep	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jan 1993	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jan 1999	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Feb	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Feb	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Mar	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Mar	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Apr	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Apr	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
May	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	May	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jun	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jun	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jul	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jul	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Aug	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Aug	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Sep	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Sep	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jan 1994	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jan 2000	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Feb	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Feb	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Mar	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Mar	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Apr	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Apr	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
May	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	May	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jun	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jun	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Jul	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Jul	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Aug	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Aug	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Sep	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Sep	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Oct	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Oct	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Nov	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Nov	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%
Dec	13.00%	9.25%	3.75%	Dec	20.00%	12.47%	7.53%

Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey; Ratings & Reports for each quarter.
Moody's Bond Record: January 1991 and January 1996;
Mergent Bond Record September 2000.

Summary Information (January 1989 - August 2000)

Average Risk Premium:	13.47%
High Risk Premium:	29.43%
Low Risk Premium:	2.45%

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

**Risk Premium Cost of Equity Estimates
for the Five Telecommunications Companies**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Company Name	Bond Rating	Appropriate Yield	Equity Premium	Cost of Common Equity
ALLTEL Corporation	A	8.13%	9.39%	17.52%
AT&T Corporation	AA-	7.95%	13.14%	21.09%
BellSouth Corporation	AA-	7.95%	8.39%	16.34%
Century Tel Inc.	BBB+	8.25%	4.37%	12.62%
SBC Communications, Inc.	AA-	7.95%	13.47%	21.42%
Average				17.80%

NOTES:

Column 1 = The bond rating is as reported in Standard & Poor's Utilities & Perspectives, October 16, 2000 (p. 14).

Column 2 = The appropriate yield is equal to the rate quoted in Mergent Bond Record, September 2000 (p. 49) for newly issued 30-year Public Utility Bonds given the bond rating for the company.

Column 3 = The equity premium represents the average positive difference between the Company's expected return on common equity as reported in The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Report and the average yield on equally rated Moody's Public Utility Bonds and Mergent Bond Record from January 1989 through September 2000. See Schedules 10-1 through 10-5.

Column 4 = Column 2 + Column 3.

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Cost of Equity Estimates for the Five Telecommunications Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Company Name	Risk Free Rate	Company's Beta	Market Risk Premium	Cost of Common Equity
ALLTEL Corporation	5.81%	0.75	7.80%	11.66%
AT&T Corporation	5.81%	0.95	7.80%	13.22%
BellSouth Corporation	5.81%	0.85	7.80%	12.44%
Century Tel Inc.	5.81%	0.95	7.80%	13.22%
SBC Communications Inc.	5.81%	0.85	7.80%	12.44%
Average		<u><u>0.87</u></u>		<u><u>12.59%</u></u>

NOTES:

Column 1 = The Risk Free Rate of Interest which is equal to the 30-year U. S. Treasury Rate as quoted in The Wall Street Journal, October 17, 2000.

Column 2 = Beta is a measure of the movement and relative risk of an individual stock to the market as a whole as reported by The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, July 7, 2000.

Column 3 = The Market Risk Premium is the amount over the Risk Free Rate that is demanded by investors for holding a portfolio of equal risk to the market, and was reported by Ibbotson Associates, Inc. in Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2000 Yearbook. See Table 2-1, Arithmetic Mean (large company stocks less long-term government bonds).

Column 4 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 3)].

Small Telephone Company Earnings Investigation

Cost of Common Equity Summary

Method	Weighting of Method	Cost of Common Equity Estimate
DCF	75.00%	14.11%
Risk Premium	10.00%	17.80%
CAPM	15.00%	12.59%
Estimated Overall Cost of Common Equity for the Five Telecommunications Companies		14.25%

Notes:

See Schedule 9 for DCF Estimated Cost of Common Equity.

See Schedule 11 for Risk Premium Estimated Cost of Common Equity.

See Schedule 12 for CAPM Estimated Cost of Common Equity.

Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
Case No. TT-2001-328

**Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Unlevered Beta Cost of Equity Estimates
for the Five Telecommunications Companies**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Company Name	Risk Free Rate	Company's Original Beta	Company's Unlevered Beta	Market Risk Premium	Cost of Common Equity	Unlevered Cost of Common Equity	Adjustment for Leverage
ALLTEL Corporation	5.81%	0.75	0.49	7.80%	11.66%	9.65%	2.01%
AT&T Corporation	5.81%	0.95	0.82	7.80%	13.22%	12.20%	1.01%
BellSouth Corporation	5.81%	0.85	0.60	7.80%	12.44%	10.47%	1.97%
Century Tel Inc.	5.81%	0.95	0.55	7.80%	13.22%	10.08%	3.14%
SBC Communications Inc.	5.81%	0.85	0.59	7.80%	12.44%	10.41%	2.03%
Average		0.87	0.61		12.59%	10.56%	2.03%

NOTES:

Column 1 = The Risk Free Rate of Interest which is equal to the 30-year U. S. Treasury Rate as quoted in The Wall Street Journal, October 17, 2000.

Column 2 = Beta is a measure of the movement and relative risk of an individual stock to the market as a whole as reported by The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, August 4, 2000.

Column 3 = $B_u / [1 + (1 - T)D/E]$ Where B_u = levered beta; T = tax rate as reported by Value Line; and D/E = the debt to equity ratio according to Value Line information

Column 4 = The Market Risk Premium is the amount over the Risk Free Rate that is demanded by investors for holding a portfolio of equal risk to the market, and was reported by Ibbotson Associates, Inc. in Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2000 Yearbook. See Table 2-1, Arithmetic Mean (large company stocks less long-term government bonds).

Column 5 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 4)].

Column 6 = [Column 1 + (Column 3 * Column 4)]

Column 7 = Column 5 - Column 6

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, July 7, 2000.

Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
Case No. TT-2001-328

**Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Unlevered Beta Cost of Equity Estimates
for the Eight Telecommunications Companies**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Company Name	Risk Free Rate	Company's Original Beta	Company's Unlevered Beta	Market Risk Premium	Cost of Common Equity	Unlevered Cost of Common Equity	Adjustment for Leverage
ALLTEL Corporation	6.16%	0.70	0.43	7.40%	11.34%	9.33%	2.01%
AT&T Corporation	6.16%	0.80	0.70	7.40%	12.08%	11.36%	0.72%
Aliant Communications, Inc.	6.16%	0.85	0.70	7.40%	12.45%	11.35%	1.10%
Ameritech Corporation	6.16%	0.80	0.59	7.40%	12.08%	10.51%	1.57%
Bell Atlantic Corporation	6.16%	0.85	0.59	7.40%	12.45%	10.56%	1.89%
BellSouth Corporation	6.16%	0.85	0.63	7.40%	12.45%	10.82%	1.63%
Frontier Corporation	6.16%	1.15	0.63	7.40%	14.67%	10.82%	3.85%
SBC Communications, Inc.	6.16%	0.80	0.49	7.40%	12.08%	9.79%	2.29%
Average		0.85	0.60		12.45%	10.57%	1.88%

NOTES:

Column 1 = The Risk Free Rate of Interest which is equal to the 30-year U. S. Treasury Rate as quoted in The Wall Street Journal, June 25, 1999.

Column 2 = Beta is a measure of the movement and relative risk of an individual stock to the market as a whole as reported by The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, April 9, 1999.

Column 3 = $B_L / [1 + (1 - T)D/E]$ Where B_L = levered beta; T = tax rate as reported by Value Line; and D/E = the debt to equity ratio according to Value Line information

Column 4 = The Market Risk Premium is the amount over the Risk Free Rate that is demanded by investors for holding a portfolio of equal risk to the market, and was reported by Ibbotson Associates, Inc. in Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2000 Yearbook. See Table 2-1, Arithmetic Mean (large company stocks less long-term government bonds).

Column 5 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 4)]

Column 6 = [Column 1 + (Column 3 * Column 4)]

Column 7 = Column 5 - Column 6

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, April 9, 1999

**Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Unlevered Beta Cost of Equity Estimates
for the Eleven Telecommunications Companies**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Company Name	Risk Free Rate	Company's Original Beta	Company's Unlevered Beta	Market Risk Premium	Cost of Common Equity	Unlevered Cost of Common Equity	Adjustment for Leverage
ALLTEL Corporation	6.87%	0.90	0.59	7.30%	13.44%	11.16%	2.28%
Ameritech Corporation	6.87%	0.90	0.66	7.30%	13.44%	11.67%	1.77%
Bell Atlantic Corporation	6.87%	0.90	0.59	7.30%	13.44%	11.20%	2.24%
BellSouth Corporation	6.87%	0.90	0.65	7.30%	13.44%	11.60%	1.84%
Century Telephone Enterprises, Inc.	6.87%	1.00	0.72	7.30%	14.17%	12.10%	2.07%
Cincinnati Bell, Inc.	6.87%	0.90	0.70	7.30%	13.44%	11.96%	1.48%
GTE Corporation	6.87%	0.90	0.38	7.30%	13.44%	9.68%	3.76%
NYNEX Corporation	6.87%	0.85	0.45	7.30%	13.08%	10.16%	2.91%
SBC Communications, Inc.	6.87%	0.95	0.63	7.30%	13.81%	11.44%	2.37%
Sprint Corporation	6.87%	1.10	0.90	7.30%	14.90%	13.46%	1.44%
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc.	6.87%	0.85	0.65	7.30%	13.08%	11.64%	1.44%
Average		0.92	0.63		13.61%	11.46%	2.15%

NOTES:

Column 1 = The Risk Free Rate of Interest which is equal to the 30-year U. S. Treasury Rate as quoted in Salomon Brothers, Inc.'s Bond Market Roundup, Abstract, on May 16, 1997.

Column 2 = Beta is a measure of the movement and relative risk of an individual stock to the market as a whole as reported by The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, April 11, 1997.

Column 3 = $B_u / [1 + (1-T)D/E]$ Where B_L = levered beta; T = tax rate as reported by Value Line; and D/E = the debt to equity ratio according to Value Line information

Column 4 = The Market Risk Premium is the amount over the Risk Free Rate that is demanded by investors for holding a portfolio of equal risk to the market, and was reported by Ibbotson Associates, Inc. in Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 1997 Yearbook. See Table 2-1, Arithmetic Mean (large company stocks less long-term government bonds).

Column 5 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 4)]

Column 6 = [Column 1 + (Column 3 * Column 4)]

Column 7 = Column 5 - Column 6

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports; April 11, 1997.

Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
Case No. TT-2001-328

Unlevered Adjustment to Return on Equity Averages for the 2000, 1999 and 1997 Small Telephone Studies

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Year	Average Levered ROE	Unlevered Adjustment	Unlevered ROE
2000	14.25%	2.03%	12.22%
1999	12.92%	1.88%	11.04%
1997	12.78%	2.15%	10.63%
		Average	<u>11.30%</u>

NOTES:

Column 1 = Final estimated cost of common equity from the small telephone studies

Column 2 = Column 7 from schedules 14, 15 and 16

Column 3 = Column 1 - Column 2

Source: 2000, 1999 and 1997 small telephone studies

Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
Case No. TT-2001-328

Average High ROE's for the 2000, 1999, and 1997 Small Telephone Studies

Year	High Levered ROE's
2000	15.92%
1999	14.02%
1997	15.93%
Average	15.29%

Source: 2000, 1999 and 1997 small telephone studies

SCHEDULE 19

HAS BEEN DEEMED

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

IN ITS ENTIRETY

NP

SCHEDULE 20

HAS BEEN DEEMED

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

IN ITS ENTIRETY

NP