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June 14, 2000

FILED²

JUN 14 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

TA-2000-817

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
Truman State Office Building
301 W. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: **In the Matter of the Application of Spectra Communications Group, LLC, for Designation as a Telecommunications Company Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal Service Support pursuant to § 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the original plus eight (8) copies of Application for Designation as Eligible Carrier Pursuant to § 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for filing on behalf of Spectra Communications Group, LLC in the above referenced matter. Please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:

Sondra Morgan
Sondra B. Morgan

SBM/k

Enclosures

cc: Office of Public Counsel
MoPSC General Counsel
Kenneth Matzdorff

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED³
JUN 14 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of)
Spectra Communications Group, LLC)
for Designation as a Telecommunications)
Company Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal)
Service Support pursuant to § 254 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

Case No. TA-2000-817

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS ELIGIBLE CARRIER
PURSUANT TO § 254 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

Comes now Spectra Communications Group, LLC ("Spectra" or "Applicant") and pursuant to § 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act"), as well as the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") regulations found at 47 CFR 54.201, et seq, issued with the May 7, 1997 Report and Order of the FCC in FCC Docket No. 96-45, and hereby requests that the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") designate it as a telecommunications carrier eligible under the provisions of 47 CFR 54.201(d) to receive federal universal service support.

In support of its Application, Applicant states as follows:

1. On August 24, 1999, Spectra and GTE Midwest Incorporation ("GTE") filed a Joint Application with the Commission requesting authority for GTE to sell a portion of its Missouri network to Spectra and seeking certificates of service authority for Spectra so that it could operate the purchased network. This case was designated TM-2000-182.
2. On April 4, 2000, the Commission issued its Report and Order approving the Joint Recommendation entered into by the parties to the case, approving the transfer of the assets, and granting certificates of authority to Spectra to operate the subject exchanges and to provide basic local telecommunications service in the exchanges to be transferred. The certificates of

authority were to become effective when the company's tariff became effective.

3. On May 10, 2000, Spectra filed tariffs with the Commission with an effective date of August 1, 2000, as closing on the sale is expected to occur on July 31, 2000. When these tariffs are approved by the Commission, Spectra will become a local exchange telecommunications company certified by the Commission to provide basic local telecommunications service in the State of Missouri. Spectra's street address and principal place of business is 8800 Blue Ridge Blvd., Suite 100, Kansas City, MO 64138.

2. All correspondence, communications, pleadings, notices, orders and decisions relating to this Application should be addressed to:

W.R. England, III
Sondra B. Morgan
Brydon, Swearingen & England P.C.
312 E. Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 635-7166
(573) 635-0427 (fax)

and

Mr. Kenneth Matzdorff
Chief Operating Officer
Spectra Communications Group, LLC
P.O. Box 380039
Kansas City, MO 64138
(816) 779-8100
(816) 779-8200 (fax)

3. Section 214(e)(1) of the Act states that a carrier may be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier and therefore receive universal service support so long as the carrier, throughout its service area: (1) offers the services that are supported by federal

universal service support mechanisms under section 254(c) of the Act; (2) offers such services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services, including the services offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier; and (3) advertises the availability of and charges for such services using media of general distribution. Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 54.201(b) states that the Commission shall, on its own motion or upon request, designate a common carrier an "eligible telecommunications carrier" so long as the carrier meets the requirements of 47 CFR 54.201(d). Title 47 CFR § 54.201(c) further states that a state commission shall designate more than one common carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the state commission so long as the additional requesting carrier meets the requirements of § 54.201(d).

4. When Spectra's certificates and tariff become effective, it will offer all of the services supported by federal universal service support under § 254(c) of the Act. Specifically, Spectra will offer the following services:

- (1) Voice grade access to the public switched network;
- (2) Local usage;
- (3) Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
- (4) Single-party service or its functional equivalent;
- (5) Access to emergency services;
- (6) Access to operator services;
- (7) Access to interexchange service;
- (8) Access to directory assistance; and

(9) Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.¹

5. Applicant will advertise the availability of and charges for such services using media of general distribution within its service area.

6. Applicant acknowledges that 47 CFR 54.405 requires all eligible telecommunications carriers to make Lifeline services (as defined in 47 CFR 54.401) available to qualifying low-income consumers. Pursuant to its tariff filed with the Commission, Lifeline services will be available to qualifying low-income consumers in its service area.

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission designate it as a telecommunications carrier eligible under the provisions of 47 CFR 54.201(d) to receive federal universal service support such designation and order to be effective at the time it takes over the operation of the Missouri facilities and its tariff for service is approved and for such other orders as are deemed necessary or convenient in this matter.

¹On December 30, 1997, the FCC changed its definition of toll-limitation services in its Fourth Order on Reconsideration of the Universal Service Report and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 et al. The FCC stated, "we define toll-limitation services as either toll blocking or toll control and require telecommunications carriers to offer only one, and not necessarily both, of those services at this time in order to be designated as eligible telecommunications carriers." Id. at 2103. Spectra will offer toll blocking service to qualifying customers.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra B. Morgan

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Attorneys for Spectra Communications
Group, LLC

VERIFICATION

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) SS
COUNTY OF Cole)

Kenneth Matzdorff, having been duly sworn upon his oath, states that he is Chief Operating Officer of Spectra Communications Group, LLC, the Applicant herein, and as such, is duly authorized by the Applicant to execute the foregoing Application and to make this Affidavit on its behalf, and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application and Appendices thereto are true and correct the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

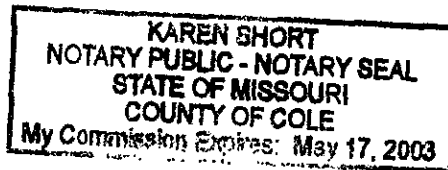
Kenneth Matzdorff

Name
Title
Address

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, on this 13th day of June 2000.

Karen Short
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

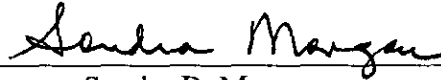


Certificate of Mailing

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was mailed or hand-delivered on June 14, 2000, to the following:

Office of Public Counsel
Truman State Office Building
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Legal Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102



Sandra B. Morgan