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1. That the Records Department shall send a copy of this order to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.
2. That Southwestern Bell Telephone Company shall have until February 2, 1998, to file its response to the petition of Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc.

3. That this order shall become effective on January 8, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts".

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Kevin F. Hennessey, Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1)
(November 30, 1995) and
Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 8th day of January, 1998.