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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)
Allegiance Telecom, Inc. for Approval)
of an Interconnection Agreement with) Case No. TO-2000-202
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company)
Pursuant to the Telecommunications Act)
of 1996.)

ORDER DIRECTING RESPONSE

On September 1, 1999, Allegiance Telecom, Inc. (Allegiance or the Applicant) filed a Motion for Expedited Consideration with the Commission along with its application for approval of an interconnection agreement (the Agreement) with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). In its motion, the Applicant stated that the Agreement is virtually, and in all material respects, identical to the Interconnection Agreement between SWBT and AT&T of the Southwest, Inc. (AT&T) previously approved by the Commission in Case Nos. TO-97-40 and TO-98-115. In addition, the Applicant stated that the Agreement is virtually, and in all material respects, identical to other "AT&T opt in" interconnection agreements recently approved by the Commission for other competitive basic local exchange telecommunications companies. Therefore, the Applicant stated that there should be no new substantive issues raised by the Agreement or any need for a lengthy review of the Agreement by the Staff of the Commission (Staff).

The Applicant requested approval of its application for Interconnection Agreement with SWBT in Missouri as quickly as possible but less than the ninety (90) days permitted for the review process. Allegiance stated that it is attempting to meet an internal filing/approval deadline nationally for purposes of its corporate business plan. Allegiance has also stated that SWBT will not begin the actual technical interconnection discussions and processes with Allegiance until Allegiance receives Commission approval of the agreement.

The Commission finds that it is necessary to determine how quickly Staff can produce its memorandum giving its recommendation regarding the Allegiance's application for approval of the interconnection agreement between SWBT and Allegiance. Staff is directed to respond to Allegiance's Motion for Expedited Consideration.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Commission shall file its response to the Motion for Expedited Consideration filed by Allegiance Telecom, Inc. on September 1, 1999, no later than 3 p.m. on October 15, 1999.

2. That this order shall become effective on October 13,
1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Shelly A. Register, 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 13th day of October, 1999.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION