

100-11

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 19th
day of October, 1999.

In the Matter of ALLTEL Missouri, Inc.'s) Case No. TT-2000-268
Proposed Tariff to Allow IXC Traffic to) Tariff File No. 200000251
Utilize the Feature Group C Network)

ORDER APPROVING TARIFFS ON AN INTERIM BASIS

On September 16, 1999, ALLTEL Missouri, Inc. (ALLTEL) filed tariff sheets to add an option for interexchange carriers to lease Feature Group C (FGC) facilities. The tariff bore an effective date of October 16, 1999. On October 8, 1999, Alma Telephone Company, Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company, Modern Telecommunications Company, MoKan Dial, Inc., and Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company (MMG) filed a motion to suspend that tariff. On October 12, 1999, ALLTEL filed a response opposing MMG's motion to suspend. On October 6, 1999, the Commission's Staff filed a memorandum in which it recommended that the tariff filing be approved.

In an order issued October 14, 1999, the Commission granted MMG's motion and suspended the tariff. On October 15, 1999, ALLTEL filed a Motion to Implement Suspended Tariff Filing on an Interim Basis and Request for Expedited Consideration. ALLTEL points out that a large number of customers may be unable to complete 1+ intraLATA calls without

the ability to use the FGC network that the proposed tariff would provide. ALLTEL also states that approving the tariff would not materially increase the amount of FGC traffic since all of ALLTEL's customers' intraLATA toll traffic is now carried on the FGC network, and that approving the tariff will allow it to implement ILDP in a manner consistent with its plan and the notices it has sent to customers. ALLTEL requests that the Commission approve its tariff on an interim basis. ALLTEL also notes that, if it is required to carry all of the intraLATA traffic on the FGD network, it would take at least six months to purchase and install the necessary equipment.

On October 18, 1999, MMG responded to ALLTEL's Motion to Implement Suspended Tariff Filing on an Interim Basis and Request for Expedited Consideration. MMG reiterates the concerns it raised in its October 8, 1999, pleading about the continued or expanded use of the FGC network. MMG also points out that the Commission created Case No. TO-99-593 to investigate, *inter alia*, the future role of the FGC network. MMG requests that, if the Commission does grant interim authority, it order ALLTEL to immediately install sufficient FGD facilities to carry all intraLATA toll traffic and to require all IXCs to create and pass originating call records.

Also on October 18, 1999, Staff filed a pleading in which it supports ALLTEL's request for interim authority. Staff states that there is no mandate against the use of the FGC network, and that allowing ALLTEL interim authority to lease it will not prematurely decide any issues in Case No. TO-99-593. Staff states that approving ALLTEL's

tariff on an interim basis is a reasonable solution to a problem that might otherwise leave a large number of customers unable to complete 1+ intraLATA calls. In anticipation of Staff's recommendation, ALLTEL filed a substitute tariff sheet that allows it to lease FGC facilities only until the Commission has ruled in Case No. TO-99-593. However, the Commission will order ALLTEL to file a substitute tariff sheet that will allow it to lease FGC facilities only until the Commission has resolved this case rather than Case No. TO-99-593.

ALLTEL's customers should not be made to suffer because their LEC proposed an ILDP plan that it had insufficient network capability to properly implement. In order to ensure that ALLTEL's customers are able to place 1+ intraLATA calls, the Commission will approve the tariff as substituted on October 18.

The Commission will not, as MMG requests, order ALLTEL to immediately install sufficient FGD facilities to carry all intraLATA toll traffic. However, the Commission will order ALLTEL to report, in six months, whether it has purchased or installed any FGD equipment to carry intraLATA traffic. Neither will the Commission order ALLTEL to require all IXC's to create and pass originating call records as MMG requests. These questions are best addressed in Case No. TO-99-593, a case explicitly created to address these issues, among others.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the proposed tariff sheets submitted on September 16, 1999, by ALLTEL Missouri, Inc., as substituted on October 18, 1999, and

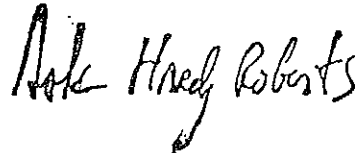
assigned Tariff No. 200000251, are approved for service on and after October 20, 1999.

2. That ALLTEL shall file a report on April 19, 2000, stating whether it has purchased or installed any Feature Group D equipment to carry intraLATA traffic.

3. That ALLTEL shall file a substitute tariff sheet that will allow it to lease Feature Group C facilities only until the Commission has resolved this case rather than Case No. TO-99-593.

4. That this order shall become effective on October 20, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Murray,
and Drainer, CC., concur
Schemenauer, C., absent

Mills, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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COMMISSION CHIEF COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION