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In the Matter of the Application of)
NEXTLINK MISSOURI, INC. for Approval) Case No. TO-2000-143
of Interconnection Agreement Under the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO RESPOND

On August 12, 1999, NEXTLINK MISSOURI, INC. (NEXTLINK) filed an application with the Commission for approval of an interconnection agreement with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (Southwestern Bell). On August 16, the Commission issued an Order Directing Notice and Making Southwestern Bell Telephone Company a Party. No other party has requested leave to intervene and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company has filed a Statement of Position indicating that it does not object to the granting of NEXTLINK's Application.

On September 14, NEXTLINK filed a Motion for Expedited Consideration. In that Motion, NEXTLINK indicated that it wants to begin operations on November 1, 1999. NEXTLINK requests that the Commission expedite its consideration of this matter so that an order approving the interconnection agreement can be entered and become effective on or before September 30.

The Commission will attempt to expedite the consideration of this application to the greatest extent possible while honoring its obligation

to carefully consider the application. The Commission must also be mindful of the limitations imposed on the Staff of the Commission (Staff) by the press of other business. For that reason, it is important that Staff be allowed to give its input on this question.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That no later than September 24, 1999, the Staff of the Public Service Commission shall file a statement advising the Commission as to whether or not it will be able to file, by September 29, 1999, a Staff recommendation regarding the application of NEXTLINK Missouri, Inc. for approval of the interconnection agreement between NEXTLINK Missouri, Inc., and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

2. That this order shall become effective September 24, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, 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 21st day of September, 1999.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION