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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 9th  
day of March, 2000.

In the Matter of the Application of Missouri       )  
State Discount Telephone for a Certificate of       )  
Authority to Provide Basic Local                       )  
Telecommunications Service and Long Distance       ) Case No. TA-2000-204  
Service in the State of Missouri and to Classify    )  
Said Services and Missouri Discount Telephone     )  
as Competitive.   )

ORDER REQUIRING AN ON THE RECORD PRESENTATION REGARDING  
STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT AND CANCELING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On September 1, 1999, Missouri State Discount Telephone (M-SDT) filed an Application for Certificate of Service Authority and for Competitive Classification. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, the Small Telephone Group, and the Mid-Missouri Group of Local Exchange Companies were subsequently allowed to intervene. A procedural schedule was established and the case was set for hearing on May 1, 2000.

According to the procedural schedule, M-SDT was to file its direct testimony on February 18. Instead, on February 22, the parties filed a joint stipulation and agreement. The Staff of the Commission filed written suggestions in support of the stipulation and agreement on February 23. No party responded to Staff's suggestions.

The Commission has reviewed the joint stipulation and agreement and Staff's suggestions in support. However, the Commission continues to have questions about M-SDT's application and the joint stipulation and agreement. Therefore, the parties will be directed to appear for an on the record presentation regarding the joint stipulation and agreement on March 24. The parties should be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. Does M-SDT have sufficient technical, financial and managerial resources and abilities to provide basic local service in Missouri?
2. Does M-SDT have the financial, technical and managerial capacity to comply with Section 392.451, RSMo (Supp. 1999), by offering "all telecommunications services which the commission has determined are essential for purposes of qualifying for state universal service fund support" as those essential telecommunications services are defined at 4 CSR 240-31.010(5)?
3. M-SDT's application seeks authority to provide long-distance service but that authority is not mentioned in the joint stipulation and agreement. What is M-SDT's intent with regard to its request for authority to provide long-distance service?
4. Is M-SDT currently authorized to conduct business in the state of Missouri?

The parties should also be prepared to answer any other questions the Commission may have regarding the joint stipulation and agreement and M-SDT's application. The parties may present witnesses to address these questions. Any such witness will be subject to questions from the Commission but will not be subject to cross-examination by the other parties.

Failure of a party to appear for the on the record presentation may result in the rejection by the Commission of the joint stipulation and agreement.

With the filing of the joint stipulation and agreement and the delay attendant to the Commission's consideration of the joint stipulation and agreement, the procedural schedule previously established for this case is no longer workable. Therefore, the existing procedural schedule will be canceled. If necessary, a new procedural schedule will be established after the Commission completes its consideration of the joint stipulation and agreement.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That Missouri State Discount Telephone; the Staff of the Public Service Commission; the Small Telephone Company Group; Missouri Independent Telephone Group, f/k/a the Mid-Missouri Group; and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, the parties to the joint stipulation and agreement, are directed to appear on March 24, 2000, at 8:30 a.m., for an on the record presentation regarding the joint stipulation and agreement.

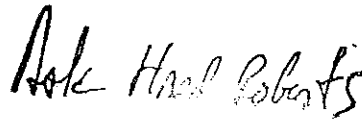
2. That the Office of the Public Counsel, while not a party to the joint stipulation and agreement, may appear for the on the record presentation if it so desires.

3. That the on the record presentation will be held in the Commission's office on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone wishing to attend who has special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days before the presentation at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

4. That the procedural schedule previously established for this case is canceled.

5. That this order shall become effective on March 20, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

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

Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge