

WLA

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of QWEST)
Communications Corporation, for a Certificate)
of Authority to Provide Basic Local and Local) Case No. TA-2000-309
Exchange Intrastate Telecommunications)
Services within the State of Missouri.)

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

QWEST Communications Corporation (QWEST or Applicant) applied to the Commission on October 29, 1999, for a certificate of service authority to provide competitive basic local and local exchange telecommunications services in the State of Missouri pursuant to Sections 392.430, 392.440, RSMo 1994, and 392.450 and 392.451, RSMo Supp. 1999. QWEST requested competitive classification and an order waiving certain Commission rules and statutory provisions pursuant to the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. QWEST seeks to provide its services throughout all exchanges currently served by the incumbent local exchange telecommunications companies of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT), Sprint/United Telephone Company (Sprint), and GTE Midwest, Inc. (GTE).

The Commission issued a notice and schedule of applicants on November 2, 1999, directing interested parties wishing to intervene to do so by December 2, 1999. SWBT filed a timely application to intervene on December 1, 1999. The Commission granted intervention in an order issued on December 8, 1999.

Applicant, SWBT and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) entered into and filed a Stipulation and Agreement

(Agreement), on January 7, 2000. The Staff filed Suggestions in Support of the Stipulation and Agreement on January 12, 2000. The Commission determined that it desired additional information prior to considering approval of the application. On February 1, 2000, the Commission issued its Order Directing Additional Staff Review and Directing Filing.

The Staff filed its report on March 9, 2000. Staff indicated that it would evaluate whether to revise its suggestions in support of the stipulation and agreement based on the Applicant's response. The Applicant filed its response on March 21, 2000. Staff filed its Supplemental Suggestions on April 4, 2000. QWEST filed its Response to Staff's Supplemental Suggestions on May 10, 2000. The parties are presently under a requirement to file a proposed procedural schedule on or before May 25, 2000, pursuant to the Commission's April 13, 2000, Order Granting Additional Time for Response and Directing Filing of Procedural Schedule (Corrected on April 25, 2000).

QWEST indicates in its May 10, 2000, response that it does not intend to file testimony in response to Staff's Supplemental Suggestions. QWEST indicates that Staff is agreeable to an alternative reporting requirement suggested in QWEST's May 10, 2000, response.

It appears that QWEST and Staff have reached a compromise for reporting requirements to address the Commission's concerns expressed in its February 1, 2000, Order Directing Additional Staff Review and Directing Filing. If this is the case, and the additional reporting requirements are acceptable to the parties and to the Commission, the Commission may grant the application without the requirement of a hearing. The Commission will

therefore cancel the required filing of a procedural schedule and set a date certain for all parties to respond to QWEST's Response to Staff's Supplemental Suggestions filed on May 10, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Commission's Staff shall file its response to QWEST Communications Corporation Response to Staff's Supplemental Suggestions no later than May 23, 2000.

2. That any other party may file a response to QWEST Communications Corporation Response to Staff's Supplemental Suggestions no later than May 23, 2000.

3. That the requirement to file a proposed procedural schedule is cancelled pending the Commission's consideration of the parties' respective agreed or noncontested positions regarding the application filed by QWEST Communications Corporation.

4. That this order shall become effective on May 12, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(S E A L)

Keith Thornburg, 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 12th day of May, 2000.