## BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BIG RIVER TELEPHONE	)
COMPANY, LLC,	)
Complainant	)
Complainant,	)
V.	) Case No. TC-2007-0085
SOUTHWESTERN BELL	)
TELEPHONE, L.P. D/B/A	)
AT&T MISSOURI,	)
	)
Respondent.	)

## BIG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC'S RESPONSE TO AT&T MISSOURI'S REQUEST FOR MEDIATION

COMES NOW Big River Telephone Company, LLC, pursuant to the Commission's Order Directing Filing issued March 2, 2009 and for its Response to AT&T Missouri's Request for Mediation states to the Commission:

- 1. As Big River and AT&T have indicated in prior pleadings, in addition to this matter they are engaged in litigation pending before the Circuit Court of St. Louis County. Specifically, in addition to the matters that are in dispute in this case, Big River has claims pending against AT&T and its affiliates in excess of \$2.6 million in principal plus additional amounts for interest, costs and attorneys fees. Hence, the amount of Big River's claims far exceeds the amount of AT&T's claims.
- 2. With the understanding that Big River will expect settlement negotiations to address all matters in dispute between the parties, Big River will agree to participate in mediation as requested by AT&T.

3. Big River requests clarification as to whether the parties are still expected to appear for a prehearing conference on March 9, 2009.

WHEREFORE, Big River submits this response to the Commission and requests direction regarding mediation and the currently scheduled prehearing conference.

CURTIS, HEINZ, GARRETT & O'KEEFE, P.C.

/s/ Carl J. Lumley

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## **Certificate of Service**

A true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the parties identified on the attached service list on this 5th day of March, 2009, by either placing same in the U.S. Mail, postage paid, by fax or email transmission.

/s/ Carl J. Lumley

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