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November 5, 1999

The Honorable Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
301 West High Street, Floor 5A
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: Case No. TA-2000-217

Dear Judge Roberts:

Enclosed, for filing in the above-captioned case, are an original and fourteen copies of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Request to be Excused from Prehearing Conference.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the attention of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony K. Conroy /tm".

Anthony K. Conroy

Enclosures

cc: Attorneys of Record

FILED²

NOV 05 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²
NOV 05 1999
Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of)
HJN Telecom, Inc., for a Certificate)
of Service Authority to provide Basic)
Local Telecommunications Services in)
Portions of the State of Missouri and to)
Classify Such Services and the Company)
as Competitive)

Case No. TA-2000-217

**SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S
REQUEST TO BE EXCUSED FROM PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

COMES NOW Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) and respectfully requests that it be excused from attending the prehearing conference scheduled for November 8, 1999, in the above-referenced case. SWBT does not oppose HJN Telecom's application for basic local certification or request for competitive classification, subject to the same conditions the Commission has ordered in other basic local certification cases. SWBT anticipates that a unanimous stipulation and agreement will be filed in this case on or before November 15, 1999, the date the Commission previously ordered the parties to submit a proposed procedural schedule in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

BY Anthony K. Conroy /tm
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing document were served on all parties on the Service List by first-class postage prepaid, U.S. Mail and by facsimile on November 5, 1999.

Anthony K. Conroy /tm
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