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The Commission finds that proper persons should be allowed 20 days from the issuance of this order to file a motion for hearing or an application to participate without intervention. Participation may be permitted for the limited purpose of filing comments addressing whether this agreement meets the federal standards for approval of interconnection

agreements. The requirement of a hearing is met when an opportunity to be heard has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2D 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

Section 252(e)(4) of the Act provides that if the Commission has not approved an agreement within ninety days after submission, the agreement shall be deemed approved. Therefore, the Commission will proceed with this case expeditiously and, if there are no requests for a hearing, relief may be granted based on the verified petition. The Commission finds that notice of this application should be sent to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Records Department of the Commission shall send notice to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.

2. That any party wishing to request a hearing or to participate without intervention in this matter shall file an application no later than April 6, 1998, with the Executive Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, and send copies to:

Rick Zucker
1000 GTE Drive
P.O. Box 307
Wentzville, MO 63385

Richard S. Brownlee, III
Hendren and Andrae, L.L.C.
Riverview Office Center
221 Bolivar Street
P.O. Box 1069
Jefferson City, MO 65102

3. That comments addressing whether this agreement meets the standards for approval of interconnection agreements must be filed no later than May 10, 1998.

4. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a memorandum advising either approval or rejection of this agreement and giving the reasons therefore no later than May 20, 1998.

5. That this order shall become effective on March 17, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale H. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dale H. Roberts
Chief Regulatory Law Judge/Secretary

(S E A L)

Amy E. Randles, 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 17th day of March, 1998.

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MAR 17 1998

COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION