

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 24th
day of May, 1991.

In the matter of Southwestern Bell Telephone)
Company's tariff filing to reduce Directory) Case No. TR-91-351
Assistance (DA) Service call rate.)

ORDER APPROVING TARIFFS

On April 25, 1991, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWB) filed a tariff reflecting a decrease in the directory assistance service call rate from \$.5299 to \$.4472. This reduction is designed to bring the Missouri intrastate access directory assistance call rate into parity with the interstate directory assistance call rate. The annual revenue decrease associated with the proposed reduction is \$383,842.

On May 7, 1991, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed a motion to suspend the tariff and request a hearing. In support of its motion, Public Counsel states it does not oppose the proposed decrease in directory assistance revenue as long as SWB agrees not to increase rates for other existing services to make this price decrease revenue neutral. Public Counsel argues that if SWB intends to raise the rates for existing services it should do so in conjunction with this proposed decrease to enable Public Counsel to consider the relative merits of the proposed price changes.

On May 17, 1991, SWB filed a response to Public Counsel's motion.¹ In support of its response, SWB states it will not attempt to apply the proposed revenue decrease in this filing to any access increase which may be proposed during the term of the current incentive plan in order to maintain revenue neutrality. SWB requests that the Commission deny Public Counsel's mot/

Additionally, on May 17, 1991, SWB filed a revised tariff sheet further reducing the directory assistance service call rate to \$.4465 result in an annual decrease of \$387,081.

On May 22, 1991, Public Counsel filed a supplemental motion request that its motion of May 7, 1991 be extended to cover the revised tariff. The Commission determines that Public Counsel's motion should be denied as SWB's response resolves the issue raised by Public Counsel.

Staff has informed the Commission that the tariff should be suspended. Upon consideration, the Commission is of the opinion that the tariff should be allowed to go into effect.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the directory assistance service call rate tariff filed May 17, 1991 be hereby approved.
2. That Public Counsel's Motion For Order Suspending Tariff And Granting Hearing be denied.
3. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION

Brent Stewart

Brent Stewart
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Steinmeier, Chm., Mueller and
McClure, CC., Concur.
Rauch and Perkins, CC., Dissent.