## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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## **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of an Investigation into Various ) Issues Related to the Missouri Universal Service ) <u>Case No. TO-98-329</u> Fund. )

## **ORDER ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL DATES**

On November 5, 1998, the parties to this case filed a Motion to Expedite the Transcript and Schedule a Third Hearing Phase. The parties all agree that the Commission should create a third phase of this proceeding to address "subsidies and other payments" as set forth in 4 CSR 240.040(6) and other implementation issues. The parties request that the transcript of the hearing to be held on costing issues be produced in three days and propose a fairly aggressive schedule for briefing and deciding the costing issues, culminating in a decision by March 5, 1999.

The parties propose the following schedule for the third phase:

Direct Testimony	March 23, 1999
Rebuttal Testimony	April 20, 1999
Surrebuttal Testimony	May 4, 1999
Hearing Memorandum	May 5, 1999
Hearing	May 11-19, 1999

Implicit in the proposal is the objective of having a decision issued in the costing phase upon which the parties can rely in preparing their testimony in the third phase. The Commission will endeavor to issue a decision in the costing phase by March 5, although it cannot commit to such a deadline, nor can it guarantee that a decision issued by March 5 will be final before testimony is to be filed in the third phase. The Commission will establish a third phase to address "subsidies and other payments" as set forth in 4 CSR 240.040(6) and other implementation issues. The conditions that apply to the schedule of the first two phases shall apply to the third phase as well.

## **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the Motion to Expedite the Transcript and Schedule a Third Hearing Phase is granted.

2. That initial briefs on the costing phase shall be due January 14, 1999 and reply briefs on the costing phase shall be due January 29, 1999.

3. That the following procedural schedule is established for the third phase of this case:

Direct Testimony	March 23, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Rebuttal Testimony	April 20, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Surrebuttal Testimony	May 4, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Hearing Memorandum	May 5, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Hearing	May 11-19, 1999 9:00 A.M.

The hearing will be held on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Any person with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities

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Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

 That this order shall become effective on December 11, 1998.

**BY THE COMMISSION** Hoke Hredy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Lewis R. Mills, Deputy Chief 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 1st day of December, 1998.