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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)
Simply Long Distance, Inc. for a)
Certificate of Service to Provide) **CASE NO. TA-98-306**
Intrastate Interexchange)
Telecommunications Services in the)
State of Missouri.)

ORDER APPROVING INTEREXCHANGE CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY AND
ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

Simply Long Distance, Inc. (SLD) applied to the Public Service Commission on January 23, 1998, for a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri under § 392.440, RSMo 1994¹. SLD asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by §§ 392.361 and 392.420. Applicant is a Missouri corporation, with its principal office located at 11406 Gravois, Sappington, Missouri 63127.

The Commission issued a Notice of Applications and Opportunity to Intervene on February 3, directing parties wishing to intervene to file their requests by February 18. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for hearing 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). Since no one has asked permission to intervene or requested a hearing, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the verified application.

¹All statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri 1994 unless otherwise indicated.

SLD filed a proposed tariff in conjunction with its application and filed substitute sheets on February 13 and March 9. The tariff's effective date is March 24. SLD's tariff describes the rates, rules, and regulations it intends to use, identifies SLD as a competitive company, and lists the waivers requested. SLD intends to provide interexchange telecommunications services including 1+ direct dial, 800 services, directory assistance, and travel card services.

In its Memorandum filed on March 12, the Staff of the Commission stated that Applicant's proposed services are similar to existing IXC offerings. Staff recommended that the Commission grant Applicant a certificate of service authority, competitive status, and waiver of the statutes and rules listed in the Notice. Staff recommended that the Commission approve the proposed tariff to become effective on March 24.

The Commission finds that competition in the intrastate interexchange telecommunications market is in the public interest and Applicant should be granted a certificate of service authority. The Commission finds that the services Applicant proposes to offer are competitive and Applicant should be classified as a competitive company. The Commission finds that waiving the statutes and Commission rules set out in the ordered paragraph below is reasonable and not detrimental to the public interest.

The Commission finds that SLD's proposed tariff details the services, equipment, and pricing it proposes to offer, and is similar to tariffs approved for other Missouri certificated interexchange carriers. The Commission finds that the proposed tariff filed on January 23 shall be approved as amended to become effective on March 24.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Simply Long Distance, Inc. is granted a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in the state of Missouri, subject to all applicable statutes and Commission rules except as specified in this order.

2. That Simply Long Distance, Inc. is classified as a competitive telecommunications company. Application of the following statutes and regulatory rules shall be waived:

Statutes

392.240(1) - ratemaking
392.270 - valuation of property (ratemaking)
392.280 - depreciation accounts
392.290 - issuance of securities
392.310 - stock and debt issuance
392.320 - stock dividend payment
392.340 - reorganization(s)
392.330, RSMo Supp. 1997 - issuance of securities, debts and notes

Commission Rules

4 CSR 240-10.020	- depreciation fund income
4 CSR 240-30.010(2)(C)	- rate schedules
4 CSR 240-30.040	- Uniform System of Accounts
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(B)	- exchange boundary maps
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(C)	- record keeping
4 CSR 240-32.030(2)	- in-state record keeping
4 CSR 240-32.050(3)	- local office record keeping
4 CSR 240-32.050(4)	- telephone directories
4 CSR 240-32.050(5)	- call intercept
4 CSR 240-32.050(6)	- telephone number changes
4 CSR 240-32.070(4)	- public coin telephone
4 CSR 240-33.030	- minimum charges rule
4 CSR 240-33.040(5)	- financing fees

3. That the tariff filed by Simply Long Distance, Inc. on January 23, 1998, is approved as amended to become effective on March 24, 1998. The tariff approved is:

P.S.C. Mo. No. 1

4. That this order shall become effective on March 24, 1997.

5. That this case shall be closed on March 30, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Elaine E. Bensavage, 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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COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION