

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the	Matter c	of an Ir	nvestigati	ion into Va	arious)		
Issues	Related	to the	Missouri	Universal	Service) <u>Cas</u>	se No.	TO-98-329
Fund.)		

ORDER AMENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On April 9, 1999, the Commission canceled the hearing and directed the parties to file a new proposed procedural schedule. On April 16, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Establish a New Procedural Schedule. Staff states that the parties have agreed upon this proposed schedule.

The parties proposed that a conference call be conducted on May 27. Settlement discussions are more likely to be productive if conducted face-to-face rather than on a conference call, so the Commission will schedule a prehearing conference on May 27 in lieu of the proposed conference call.

The Commission will amend the procedural schedule to conform with this proposed schedule with minor modifications. The following conditions shall apply to the schedule:

(A) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties shall comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages.

The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

- (B) Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.130(15), testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless the Commission has first established a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.
- (C) The parties shall agree upon and the Staff shall file a list of the issues to be heard, the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing and the order in which they shall be called, and the order of cross-examination for each witness. Any issue not contained in this list of issues will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission.
- (D) Each party shall file a statement of its position on each disputed issue. Such statement shall be simple and concise, and shall not contain argument about why the party believes its position to be the correct one.
- (E) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, such request shall be tendered in writing to the regulatory law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

- (F) All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.080. Briefs shall follow the same list of issues as filed in the case and shall set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.
- (G) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits which they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the regulatory law judge, and all counsel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the following procedural schedule is established:

Rebuttal Testimony	May 17, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Prehearing Conference	May 27, 1999 10:00 A.M.
Surrebuttal Testimony	June 2, 1999 3:00 P.M.
List of issues, order of witnesses, order of cross-examination	June 1, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Surrebuttal Testimony	June 2, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Positions of each party on all issues	June 2, 1999 3:00 P.M.
Evidentiary hearing	June 7-10, 1999 9:00 A.M.

The prehearing conference and 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 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.

2. That this order shall become effective on May 3, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

Hole Hard 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 21st day of April, 1999.

