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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of GTE)
Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas)
Incorporated for Approval of Inter-)
connection Agreement with Nextel West)
Corp. Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)
Case No. TO-99-235

ORDER AND NOTICE

GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas (GTE collectively) filed an application with the Commission on November 24, 1998, for approval of an interconnection agreement between GTE and Nextel West Corp. (Nextel) under the provisions of Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). The applicant states that there are no unresolved issues and that the agreement complies with Section 252(e) of the Act because the agreement is consistent with public interest, convenience and necessity and that it does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The applicant requests expeditious approval of the agreement.

The Act provides that an interconnection agreement must be approved unless the state commission finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or that implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).

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 December 13, 1998, with:

Dale Hardy Roberts, Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
Post Office Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and send copies to:

Charles Brent Stewart
Stewart & Keevil, L.L.C.
1001 Cherry Street, Ste. 302
Columbia, Missouri 65201-7931

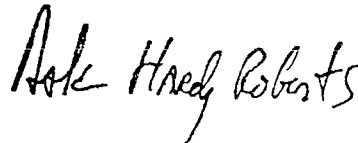
and

Office of the Public Counsel
Post Office Box 7800
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

3. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a memorandum advising either approval or rejection of this agreement and giving the reasons therefor no later than 3 p.m. on February 1, 1999.

4. That this order shall become effective on December 4, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Shelly A. Register, 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 4th day of December, 1998.

RECEIVED

DEC 04 1998

COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION