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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of United )  
Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint for )  
Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications ) **Case No. TO-98-205**  
Carrier Under 47 U.S.C. Section 214(E) (2) of the )  
Telecommunications Act of 1996. )

**ORDER AND NOTICE**

United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint (Sprint-United) filed an application on November 14, 1997, requesting designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier pursuant to Section 214(e) (2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and 47 C.F.R. Section 54.201 et seq. Sprint-United, an incumbent local exchange carrier, asked the Commission to designate it as a telecommunications carrier eligible to receive federal universal service support for its service area as described in Exhibit A to the application. Sprint-United states that it is a rural telephone company for universal service support within the meaning of 47 U.S.C. Section 3(37) (d) and 47 C.F.R. Section 51.5.

Beginning on January 1, 1998, any carrier that is eligible for universal service support must provide the services that are supported by federal universal support mechanisms as described in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, using its own facilities at least in part. The carrier must also advertise the availability of those services and the charges for them using media of general distribution. 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d). Where a telecommunications carrier is otherwise eligible for universal service support it may request additional time to complete the network upgrades necessary to provide single-party service, access to enhanced 911 service,

or toll limitation. 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(c). The Commission may grant a request for additional time on a showing of exceptional circumstances and only for the period of time the Commission deems necessary to complete the upgrades. *Id.* Because funding will become available under these conditions in January of 1998, Sprint-United has asked the Commission to make a determination of eligibility no later than December 31, 1997.

Sprint-United states that it provides all the services supported by federal universal service with the exception of single-party service and toll control. Sprint-United states that it is in the process of completing the necessary upgrades under a Commission-approved modernization schedule to provide single-party service throughout its service area. Sprint-United states that it does not currently have the technical capability to provide toll control for qualifying low income consumers, as defined in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.400. Sprint-United asks the Commission to certify it to be an eligible carrier and grant it additional time to complete the upgrades necessary to supply this service.

The Commission finds that proper parties should be given notice and an opportunity to intervene in this matter. Because this matter must be handled expeditiously, parties will be allowed only until December 8 to file an application to intervene. The Records Department of the Commission shall send a copy of this order to all certificated Missouri local exchange and interexchange carriers. Applications to intervene should be submitted to the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, and copies sent to:

Linda K. Gardner, Attorney  
United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint  
5454 West 110th Street  
Overland Park, Kansas 66211

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the Records Department of the Commission shall send copies of this order to all local exchange and interexchange telecommunications carriers.

2. That any interested party wishing to intervene shall file an application to intervene with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission and serve a copy on United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint's representatives no later than December 8, 1997.

3. That this order shall become effective on November 21, 1997.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



**Dale Hardy Roberts**  
**Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(S E A L)

L. Anne Wickliffe, 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 November, 1997.