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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Blackstone Communications Company for a)	<u>Case No. TA-99-449</u>
Certificate of Service Authority to Provide)	Tariff No. 9900780
Interexchange Telecommunications Services.)	

ORDER APPROVING INTEREXCHANGE CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY AND
ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

Blackstone Communications Company (Blackstone) applied to the Public Service Commission on April 8, 1999, for a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri under Section 392.440, RSMo 1994¹. Blackstone asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by Sections 392.361 and 392.420. Blackstone is a Florida corporation, with its principal office located at 7900 NW 36th Street, 2nd Floor, Miami, Florida 33166.

The Commission issued a Notice of Applications and Opportunity to Intervene on April 20, directing parties wishing to intervene to file their requests by May 5. No party requested the opportunity to intervene. 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

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

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.

Blackstone filed a proposed tariff in conjunction with its application with an effective date of May 23. Blackstone's tariff describes the rates, rules, and regulations it intends to use, identifies Blackstone as a competitive company, and lists the waivers requested. Blackstone intends to provide interexchange telecommunications services including 1+, 800/888/877, directory assistance, debit card and travel card services.

In its Memorandum filed on May 11, the Staff of the Commission recommended that the Commission grant Blackstone 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 May 23.

The Commission finds that competition in the intrastate interexchange telecommunications market is in the public interest and that Blackstone should be granted a certificate of service authority. The Commission finds that the services Blackstone proposes to offer are competitive and Blackstone 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 Blackstone'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 April 8 should be approved to become effective on May 23.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Blackstone Communications Company 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 Blackstone Communications Company 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. 1998	- 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

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| 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 Blackstone Communications Company on April 8, 1999, and assigned tariff number 9900780 is approved to become effective on May 23, 1999. The tariff approved is:

P.S.C. Mo. Tariff No. 1

4. That this order shall become effective on May 23, 1999.
5. That this case may be closed on May 24, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, 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 18th day of May, 1999.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION