

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Steelville)	
Telephone Exchange, Inc., for Authority to)	
Borrow an Amount Not to Exceed \$9,866,100 from)	
the Rural Utilities Service and the Rural)	<u>Case No. TF-99-318</u>
Telephone Bank and in Connection Therewith to)	
Execute a Telephone Loan Contract Amendment,)	
Promissory Notes, and a Restated Mortgage,)	
Security Agreement and Financing Statement.)	

ORDER ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On July 26, 1999, the parties filed their joint proposed procedural schedule. The Commission has reviewed the proposed schedule and finds the dates appropriate for this case. Therefore, the Commission adopts the proposed schedule and finds that the following conditions should be applied 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) The parties shall agree on and file a list of issues to be determined herein by the Commission. Staff shall be responsible for actually drafting and filing the list of issues and the other parties shall cooperate with Staff in the development thereof.

(C) Each party shall file a list of the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing and the order in which they shall be called. The order of cross examination shall be determined at the opening of the hearing.

(D) Each party shall file a statement of its position on each disputed issue, including a summary of the factual and legal points relied on by the party. Such statement shall be simple and concise, and shall not contain argument about why the party believes its position to be the correct one. The position statement shall be filed in both paper form and electronically, either on computer disk or by e-mail. Electronically-submitted documents should be in Word, Word Perfect, or ASCII format. The Regulatory Law Judge's e-mail address is: ktomp099@mail.state.mo.us. The parties may revise or amend the issues set out in the issues list as necessary in their position statement. Any issue not included in either the issues list or a position statement will be presumed to not require determination by the Commission.

(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. The briefs to be submitted by the parties shall follow the same lists of issues as filed in the case. The briefs must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record

concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission. Each principal brief shall not exceed 30 pages in length; reply briefs shall not exceed 15 pages in length. The presiding officer will establish a briefing schedule at the close of the hearing.

(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 adopted for this case:

Direct testimony by company	August 25, 1999 3:00 PM
Rebuttal testimony All parties	September 8, 1999 3:00 PM
Statement of Issues	September 15, 1999 3:00 PM
Surrebuttal/Cross-Surrebuttal All parties	September 22, 1999 3:00 PM
Position Statements of each party on all issues	October 5, 1999 3:00 PM
List and order of witnesses	October 5, 1999 3:00 PM
Evidentiary Hearing	October 14, 1999 9:00 AM

The 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. The parties need not file a List of Issues by July 26, 1999, as previously ordered herein.

3. That this order shall become effective on July 29, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Kevin A. Thompson, 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 29th day of July, 1999.

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JUL 29 1999

COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION