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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Missouri)
State Discount Telephone for a Certificate of)
Authority to Provide Basic Local)
Telecommunications Service and Long Distance) Case No. TA-2000-204
Service in the State of Missouri and to Classify)
Said Services and Missouri Discount Telephone)
as Competitive.)

ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION, SETTING A PREHEARING CONFERENCE
AND DIRECTING FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Missouri State Discount Telephone (M-SDT) filed an application on September 1, 1999, for a certificate of service authority to provide basic local and long distance service in the state of Missouri. M-SDT wishes to provide basic local telecommunications services in all exchanges currently served by all approved incumbent local service providers in the state of Missouri.

On September 3, the Commission issued a Notice of Deficiency in Application. That notice informed M-SDT of certain deficiencies in the application. M-SDT corrected the cited deficiencies in an Amended Application filed on October 7.

On September 14, the Commission issued a Notice of Applications, directing parties interested in M-SDT's application for interexchange and nonswitched local exchange authority to file applications to intervene no later than September 29. The same notice

directed parties interested in M-SDT's application for basic local authority to file applications to intervene no later than October 14.

On October 7, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed an application to intervene. SWBT stated that it has a direct interest in the Commission's decision regarding M-SDT's application to provide basic local service because M-SDT will be in direct competition with SWBT. SWBT states that its interest as a provider of basic local exchange service differs from that of the general public. SWBT further states that its intervention would be in the public interest because of its extensive expertise and experience as a telecommunications provider.

On October 13, the Small Telephone Company Group (STCG) filed an application to intervene. The telephone companies that are members of STCG are rural telephone companies and incumbent local exchange carriers. STCG stated that its members have a direct interest in the Commission's decision regarding M-SDT's application to provide basic local service because M-SDT will be in direct competition with the STCG companies. STCG states that the interest of its members, as providers of basic local exchange service, differs from that of the general public. STCG further states that its intervention would be in the public interest because of the extensive expertise and experience of its members as telecommunications providers.

The Commission has reviewed the applications to intervene and finds that they are in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding intervention and that the applicants have an interest in this

matter that is different from that of the general public. The Commission concludes that the requests for intervention should be granted and that the parties should file a proposed procedural schedule. In order to assist in the development of the procedural schedule and to clarify the issues in dispute, an early prehearing conference will be scheduled. The procedural schedule shall include dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing. If no party requests a hearing, the Commission may grant the service authority and competitive classification requested without a hearing. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2D 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is granted intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4).
2. That the Small Telephone Company Group is granted intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4).
3. That an early prehearing conference shall be held on December 8, 1999, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The prehearing conference shall be held at the Commission's offices on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone wishing to attend who has special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days before the prehearing conference at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

4. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than December 20, 1999. The procedural schedule shall include dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing.

5. That this order shall become effective on October 29, 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 19th day of October, 1999.

COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE
JULIO SANCHEZ
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