

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 12th
day of April, 1996.

In the Matter of the Request for Community Optional)
Service From Kingdom Telephone Company's Williamsburg) CASE NO. TO-96-183
Exchange to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's)
Fulton and Mexico Exchanges.)

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

The Commission has received a petition signed by residents of the Williamsburg exchange requesting extra-exchange calling at less than toll rates from the Williamsburg exchange served by Kingdom Telephone Company (Kingdom) to the Fulton and Mexico exchanges served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT).

By order issued November 13, 1995, the Commission directed Kingdom to perform a calling usage study covering one billing cycle in order to ascertain whether a sufficient community of interest exists between these exchanges to justify providing them with community optional service (COS).

On January 5, 1996, Kingdom filed the results of the calling usage study performed in said exchanges. The results of said study are as follows:

Originating <u>Exchange</u>	Terminating <u>Exchange</u>	Average Calls Per <u>Access Line</u>	Percent Making <u>2+ Calls</u>
Williamsburg	Mexico	1.6	19.5;
Williamsburg	Fulton	13.07	66.3.

Because it was so close to meeting the criteria for COS, Kingdom encouraged the Commission to implement the Williamsburg to Fulton route.

On March 15, 1996, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum recommending that the Commission implement the Williamsburg to Fulton route. Staff noted that the Commission has approved similar routes in the past.

On March 20, 1996, SWBT filed a recommendation in this case. SWBT recommends either a dismissal of this case or an order directing an additional calling study for the Williamsburg to Fulton route. SWBT states that as the assigned primary toll carrier (PTC) for the Williamsburg exchange, it would be the COS provider, not Kingdom, and that it is inappropriate for another telephone company to volunteer SWBT's services when Commission-ordered criteria have not been met.

In its Report and Order issued in Case No. TO-87-131, the Commission found that a community of interest would be demonstrated if a calling usage study showed that six calls per access line per month are made on the average from the petitioning exchange to the requested exchange and two-thirds of the customers in the petitioning exchange make two or more calls per month to the requested exchange. The Commission also stated that COS could be initiated either by a petition of customers, at the request of a political subdivision or the Public Counsel, or upon application from a local exchange company (LEC) for a route originating from its service area. *In re the Investigation of Experimental Extended Measured Service (EMS)*, 30 Mo. P.S.C. (N.S.) 45 (1989).

Even though a LEC may request that COS be implemented from its service area, the Commission agrees with SWBT that it is inappropriate for a telephone company to be forced to provide COS when the calling criteria have not been met. Thus, the Commission finds that since the petitioned routes did not demonstrate a sufficient community of interest, this case should be dismissed.

Although the COS petition in this case will be dismissed, customers may still be provided expanded calling through a statewide expanded calling scope plan approved by the Commission. *In re the Establishment of a Plan for Expanded Calling Scopes in Metropolitan and Outstate Exchanges*, 2 Mo. P.S.C. 3d 1 (1992). The plan implements a Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) service in St. Louis, Kansas City and Springfield. The MCA service modifies and expands the Wide Area Service Plan currently in place in St. Louis and Kansas City. The plan also provides an Outstate Calling Area (OCA) service for those exchanges not included in an MCA. The OCA service is an optional service offered for expanded calling beyond a customer's local exchange within a 23-mile radius from each exchange's central office.

Inquiries concerning the expanded calling scope plan approved by the Commission should be directed to the Information Office of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That this case is hereby dismissed.
2. That this Order shall become effective on 23rd day of April, 1996.

BY THE COMMISSION



David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Zobrist, Chm., Crumpton and
Drainer, CC., concur.
McClure and Kincheloe, CC.,
absent.