

IP Communications Corporation 6405 Metcalf, Suite 120 Overland Park, KS 66202

April 29, 2002

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street, Suite 100 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re: TO-2001-439

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Please find enclosed for filing an original and nine (9) copies of IP Communications of the Southwest's Response to Commission Order Rescheduling Oral Argument and Further Request for Limited Substitution of Counsel. Please stamp the extra copy filed and return in the self addressed stamped envelope. If there are any questions, please contact me at (913) 831-1013. Thank you.

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Sincerely,

David J. Stueven Director, Regulatory

**IP Communications Corporation** 

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Counsel of Record

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

In the Matter of the Determination of	)	
Prices, Terms and Conditions for Loop	)	Case No. TO-2001-439
Conditioning.	)	Case No. 10-2001-439

## RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ORDER RESCHEDULING ORAL ARGUMENT AND FURTHER REQUEST FOR LIMITED SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL

COMES NOW IP Communications of the Southwest ("IP") and for its Response to Commission Order Rescheduling Oral Argument and Further Request for Limited Substitution of Counsel, states as follows:

- 1. On April 19, 2002, the Missouri Public Service Commission issued an Order scheduling an oral argument concerning the various pleadings filed after the Commission's Final Order in this case. The oral argument was scheduled for April 30, 2002 at 10:00 am. IP filed its Request for Limited Substitution of Counsel on April 24, 2002. The Commission issued an Order on April 26, 2002 rescheduling the oral argument for May 9, 2002 and declaring IP's request moot.
- 2. The undersigned counsel for IP would still be unable to attend for medical reasons. Undersigned counsel is currently scheduled to have a tumor removed from his upper spinal cord on May 13, 2002. Until such time that this medical condition is resolved, undersigned counsel will not be able to travel to Jefferson City.<sup>1</sup>

Undersigned counsel's recovery time is unknown.

- 3. IP incorporates by reference its previous request for limited substitution of counsel in its entirety.
- 4. IP is also responding to SWBT's response to IP's original request. Clearly IP does fall within the permitted role found in Supreme Court Rule 4-3.7 even if there were not extreme circumstances supporting the request. Further, SWBT's concerns about confidentiality are completely unfounded as IP and SWBT entered into a side agreement that allows Mr. Siegel access to the material SWBT is concerned about. SWBT's raising of this issue is disingenuous and misleading to the Commissioners. SWBT is also incorrect on the "joint position" of AT&T and IP. While IP and AT&T have common positions in this case and have filed one joint pleading after the Final Order in this case, IP has also filed a separate pleading that AT&T did not join in on. It is IP's understanding that the Oral Argument is to cover all pleadings filed after the Final Order, not just SWBT's motion for rehearing.
- 5. SWBT has singularly failed to point out any valid harm that it would suffer if Mr. Sigel were allowed to present IP's argument. As pointed out in IP's initial request, the purpose of the rule is to ensure that the trier of fact or law is not confused on the point of whether the person in question is acting as an attorney or as a witness. In this case, it is clear; and IP is confident that the Commission can make that distinction. As such, SWBT suffers no harm whatsoever, and IP remains in full compliance with the rule.

WHEREFORE, IP Communications of the Southwest respectfully requests that the Commission grant IP's Request for Limited Substitution of Counsel and

permit Mr. Siegel to present IP's oral argument at the May 9, 2002 Oral Argument scheduled by the Commission in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Stueven MO Bar No. 51274

Director, Regulatory – MO, OK, KS IP Communications of the Southwest

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Attorney for IP Communications of the Southwest

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I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2002.

**Certificate of Service** 

Service List for Case No. TO-2001-439

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