STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 16th day of December, 1998.

In the Matter of the Application of GTE)
Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas)
Incorporated for Approval of an Interconnection) Case No. TO-98-582
Agreement with Green Hills Communications, Inc.)
Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO MODIFY

On June 25, 1998, GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated (GTE) filed an application for approval of interconnection agreement between GTE and Green Hills Communications, Inc., pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. By its order issued on September 22, the Commission approved the interconnection agreement and also granted a motion by which Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company, Inc., d/b/a Green Hills Telecommunications Services (GHTS) was assigned the rights of its affiliated sister corporation, Green Hills Communications Inc.

The Commission's September 22 order contains a provision which states that the Commission's approval of the interconnection agreement is "conditional upon the parties submitting a 'snap-back' agreement in compliance with this order no later than October 5, 1998." The date for filing of the "snap-back" agreement was subsequently extended by the Commission at the request of GTE and on October 13, GTE and GHTS filed

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a request for modification of the Commission's order that asks the Commission to remove the requirement for submission of a "snap-back" agreement. In support of their request, GTE and GHTS state that such a "snap-back" agreement has not been included in previously approved interconnection agreements involving GTE and that there are several potential technical issues to be considered before implementing the sort of "snap-back" provisions contemplated by the Commission's order.

The Commission has reviewed the request of GTE and GHTS. The problem of how to handle the customers of CLECs that are unable or unwilling to continue to operate is a matter that will require resolution. However, that problem is best addressed through the Commission's rulemaking power rather than through the interconnection agreement between these parties. The request for modification of the Commission's September 22 order is well taken. Any companies that have included a similar provision in their interconnection agreement may, at their option, submit a proposed modification for the Commission's consideration.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the request of GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated and Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company, Inc., d/b/a Green Hills Telecommunications Services for modification of the Commission's order is granted.
- 2. That the condition of the Commission's order of September 22, 1998 that requires the parties to submit a "snap-back" agreement is removed.

- 3. That this order shall become effective on December 29, 1998.
- 4. That this case may be closed on December 30, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Murray, Schemenauer, and Drainer, CC., concur

Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge