BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Big Planet,)	
Inc. for a Certificate of Service Authority to)	Case No. TA-98-546
Provide Competitive Interexchange Telecommunica-)	
tions Services.)	
)	

ORDER APPROVING INTEREXCHANGE CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY AND ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

Big Planet, Inc. (Big Planet) applied to the Public Service Commission on June 3, 1998, for a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri under Section 392.440, RSMo 1994. Big Planet asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by Sections 392.361 and 392.420. Big Planet is a Utah corporation, with its principal office located at 75 West Center Street, Provo, Utah 84601.

The Commission issued a Notice of Applications and Opportunity to Intervene on June 9, directing parties wishing to intervene to file their requests by June 24. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for hearing has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence. State ex rel.

Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989). Since no one has asked permission

¹ All statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri 1994 unless otherwise indicated.

to intervene or requested a hearing, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the verified application.

Big Planet filed a proposed tariff in conjunction with its application and filed substitute sheets on July 20 and 21. The tariff's effective date is August 1. Big Planet's tariff describes the rates, rules, and regulations it intends to use, identifies Big Planet as a competitive company, and lists the waivers requested. Big Planet intends to provide interexchange telecommunications services including 1+, 800/888/877, directory assistance, debit card, travel card and operator services.

In its Memorandum filed on July 24 the Staff of the Commission stated that Big Planet's proposed services are similar to existing IXC offerings. Staff recommended that the Commission grant Big Planet a certificate of service authority, competitive status, and waiver of the statutes and rules listed in the Notice. Staff recommended that the Commission approve the proposed tariff as amended to become effective on August 1.

The Commission finds that competition in the intrastate interexchange telecommunications market is in the public interest and Big Planet should be granted a certificate of service authority. The Commission finds that the services Big Planet proposes to offer are competitive and Big Planet should be classified as a competitive company. The Commission finds that waiving the statutes and Commission rules set out in the ordered paragraph below is reasonable and not detrimental to the public interest.

The Commission finds that Big Planet's proposed tariff details the services, equipment, and pricing it proposes to offer, and is similar

to tariffs approved for other Missouri certificated interexchange carriers. The Commission finds that the proposed tariff filed on June 3 shall be approved as amended to become effective on August 1.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That Big Planet, Inc. is granted a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in the state of Missouri, subject to all applicable statutes and Commission rules except as specified in this order.
- 2. That Big Planet, Inc. is classified as a competitive telecommunications company. Application of the following statutes and regulatory rules shall be waived:

Statutes

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392.240(1) - ratemaking
392.270 - valuation of property (ratemaking)
392.280 - depreciation accounts
392.290 - issuance of securities
392.310 - stock and debt issuance
392.320 - stock dividend payment
392.340 - reorganization(s)
392.330, RSMo Supp. 1997 - issuance of securities,
debts and notes
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Commission Rules

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4 CSR 240-10.020
                        - depreciation fund income
4 CSR 240-30.010(2)(C) - rate schedules
                        - Uniform System of Accounts
4 CSR 240-30.040
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(B) - exchange boundary maps
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(C) - record-keeping
4 CSR 240-32.030(2)
                        - in-state record-keeping
                        - local office record-keeping
4 CSR 240-32.050(3)
                        - telephone directories
4 CSR 240-32.050(4)
                        - call intercept
4 CSR 240-32.050(5)
                        - telephone number changes
4 CSR 240-32.050(6)
4 CSR 240-32.070(4) - public coin colling rule - minimum charges rule
                        - public coin telephone
4 CSR 240-33.040(5) - financing fees
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3. That the tariff filed by Big Planet, Inc. on June 3, 1998, is approved as amended to become effective on August 1, 1998. The tariff approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 1

- 4. That this order shall become effective on August 1, 1998.
- 5. That this case shall be closed on August 11, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

loke Hard Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Brian K. Harper, 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 30th day of July, 1998.

PUELIC SERVICE COMMISSION