

B-  
R0  
P3

12/10

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of TCG St. Louis     )  
for a Certificate of Service Authority to Provide     )  
Basic Local Telecommunications Services in Those     ) Case No. TA-96-345  
Portions of St. Louis LATA No. 520 Served by     )  
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.             )

**ORDER SETTING HEARING**

The Commission conducted an early prehearing conference on November 26, 1997, regarding the proposed tariffs filed by TCG St. Louis (TCG). In the Commission's order suspending the tariffs on November 6, the Commission had noted its concern about TCG's plan to calculate switched access charges in a manner that was disapproved in Case No. TR-95-342, and its concern about whether TCG's tariff complies with the condition of TCG's certificate that requires TCG to use originating and terminating access rates no greater than those used by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT). These concerns were reiterated at the prehearing conference, and the parties were informed that they could file additional pleadings to address the Commission's concerns if they wished. No party has filed any pleadings to address this issue.

The Commission finds that it should set a hearing to address the following issues:

- (1) Will the access rates proposed by TCG be calculated using a method disapproved by the Commission in TR-95-342?
- (2) If the answer to the first question is affirmative, then why TCG should be permitted to use this method of calculating access rates?

(3) What method was used to calculate the switched access charges (explain in detail)?

(4) Will TCG's proposed access rates be no greater than those used by SWBT in all instances?

(5) How was the answer to the fourth question reached?

(6) If the answer to the fourth question is negative, then why should the Commission approve the proposed access rates?

The parties should come prepared to address, by sworn testimony, Commission questions on the questions set forth above.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That an evidentiary hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on December 29, 1997, in the Commission's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.

2. That anyone wishing to attend the hearing 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 hearing at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

3. That any party desiring to support the access rates proposed by TCG St. Louis shall produce a witness or witnesses with knowledge concerning the issues stated above at the hearing.

4. That each party shall file its proposed order of witness presentation by December 22, 1997.

5. That this order shall become effective on December 10, 1997.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Dale Hardy Roberts**  
**Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

( S E A L )

Amy E. Randles, 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 10th day of December, 1997.