STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 29th day of December, 1998.

In the Matter of the Cancellation of the)		
Certificate of Service Authority and)	Case No.	TD-98-326
Tariffs of Interlink Telecommunications, Inc.)		•

ORDER CANCELING CERTIFICATE AND TARIFF AND EXCUSING THE FILING OF ADDITIONAL TARIFFS

On February 3, 1998, Interlink Telecommunications, Inc. (Interlink) filed a letter asking the Commission to cancel its interexchange certificate and tariff. Interlink stated that it had been offering services in Missouri through the sale of prepaid debit cards. Interlink indicated that it terminated service on December 31, 1997 after making arrangements with another carrier, Intellicall Operator Services (IOS), to honor any outstanding debit cards that had been sold by Interlink. Interlink requested that the Commission cancel its authorization and its current tariff.

On February 23, 1998, the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum in which it recommended that Interlink's certificate of service authority and accompanying tariff be canceled. On March 11, the Commission issued an Order Joining Necessary Party and Directing Filing of Tariffs and Staff Memorandum. This order joined IOS as a party and directed IOS to "file tariffs or an adoption

notice by April 27, 1998 if it does not have approved tariffs on file with the Commission that provide for service under the same rates, rules and regulations as the tariffs of Interlink Telecommunications, Inc." The Commission's order also directed Staff to file a supplemental memorandum addressing whether IOS has approved tariffs with the Commission that provide for service under the same rates, rules and regulations as the tariffs of Interlink. Staff filed the requested supplemental memorandum on March 26. Staff concluded that IOS does have approved tariffs which include debit card service but that IOS' debit card service is not offered under the same rates, rules and regulations as the debit card service offered by Interlink.

The Commission, on September 29, issued an Order Directing Filing of Tariffs which ordered IOS to file tariffs regarding the prepaid debit cards that it agreed to honor on behalf of Interlink. IOS responded to that order by filing a written response on December 10. In its response, IOS stated that it has reviewed its tariffs on debit card services and suggests that its existing tariffs provide for debit card services under substantially the same rates, terms and conditions as those in Interlink's tariffs. IOS' rates are somewhat lower than those of Interlink. With respect to other terms and conditions under which debit cards are offered, IOS represents that its own tariffs differ from those of Interlink only minimally, such that from the customer's perspective the services appear identical. IOS further represents that no former Interlink customer has filed a complaint with the Commission

over the transfer to IOS' service and that the Interlink debit cards in question are those that had been sold by Interlink prior to its acquisition. The vast majority of such cards that were still active with unused minutes at the time of acquisition in late 1997 have since either expired or been used to the extent that the current number of cards with unused time is de minimis.

The Commission has considered the response filed by IOS and has concluded that requiring IOS to file additional tariffs in this matter would not be in the public interest. Therefore, IOS will be relieved of any obligation to file additional tariffs regarding the prepaid debit cards that it agreed to honor on behalf of Interlink. The Commission also finds that the interexchange certificate and tariff granted to Interlink in Case No. TA-96-217 shall be canceled.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the interexchange certificate and tariff granted to Interlink Telecommunications, Inc. in Case No. TA-96-217 are canceled.
- 2. That all prior orders of the Commission directing Intellicall Operator Services to file additional tariffs regarding the prepaid debit cards that it agreed to honor on behalf of Interlink Telecommunications, Inc. are set aside.
- 3. That this order shall become effective on January 8, 1999.

4. That this case may be closed on January 9, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

Hole Hred Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

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

Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge

DEC 30 1998

COMMISSION COUNSELL

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION