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November 15, 1999

GORDON L. PERSINGER Acting Executive Director Director, Research and Public Affairs

> WESS A. HENDERSON Director, Utility Operations

ROBERT SCHALLENBERG Director, Utility Services

DONNA M. KOLILIS Director, Administration

DALE HARDY ROBERTS Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

> DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Case No. TA-2000-252

Dear Mr. Roberts:

FILED²
NOV 1 5 1999

Service Commission

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and fourteen (14) conformed copies of a STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Julie A. Kardis

Assistant General Counsel

Qui a Kardis

(573) 751-8706

(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

JAK/jb Enclosure

cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²
Nov 1 5 1999

In the Matter of the Application of Cap Rock Telecommunications Corp. for a	Zervic - Entre
Certificate of Service Authority to Provide	,
Basic Local Telecommunications Service, For Classification as a Competitive	/ Case No. LA=/000=/5/
Telecommunications Company, and for	,
Waiver of Certain Statutory and)
Regulatory Provisions)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and for its recommendation states:

In the attached Memorandum, which is labeled Appendix A, the Staff recommends that the Missouri Public Service Commission conditionally grant Cap Rock Telecommunications Corp. (Applicant) a certificate of service authority to provide basic local telecommunications service, order Applicant to file a basic local telecommunications tariff within 30 days following the Commission's approval of an interconnection agreement, and order that the filed tariff have an effective date 45 days following the date the tariff is filed with the Commission.



Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

<u>Juli a. Kardis</u> Julie A. Kardis

Assistant General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 44450

Attorney for the Staff
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
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(573) 751-8706 (Telephone)
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Certificate of Service

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 15th day of November 1999.

Julie a. Kardis

MEMORANDUM

To:

Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File

Case No. TA-2000-252

Cap Rock Telecommunications Corp.

From:

Tom Solt W

Telecommunications Department

West Headur 11-10-99
Utility Operations Division/Date

Will K Now 11/15/99
General Counsel's Office/Date

FILED²

Missouri Public Service Commission

Subject:

Staff Recommendation to Approve Certificate of Service Authority to Provide

Basic Local Telecommunications Services

Date:

November 8, 1999

On September 27, 1999, Cap Rock Telecommunications Corp. (Cap Rock), filed an application for authority to provide basic local telecommunications service in portions of Missouri and for classification as a competitive telecommunications company. On September 29, 1999, Cap Rock filed a copy of the verification page which had been omitted inadvertently from the original filing. The Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Applications on October 5, 1999, establishing an intervention deadline of November 4, 1999. No parties filed for intervention in the case.

Cap Rock proposes to offer service in all exchanges currently served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Sprint/United Telephone Company, and GTE Midwest, Inc. Cap Rock refers to the lists of exchanges appearing in the aforementioned companies' tariffs as the specific exchanges in which it requests authority to serve.

Cap Rock requested a temporary waiver of 4 CSR 240-2.060(4)(H), which requires applicants to file a tariff. It submitted copies of its certificate of service authority from the Missouri Secretary of State, a description of the qualifications and experience of its key employees, and a copy of its financial statements. The Financial Analysis Department's review of the financial information indicated that Cap Rock does meet minimum standards. Cap Rock stated in its application that it will comply with all billing, quality of service and tariff requirements of the Commission. Cap Rock also states that it will offer basic local telecommunications services as a separate and distinct service, and that it will provide equitable access to subscribers within the area proposed to be served.

Cap Rock requests waivers that are routinely granted for competitive basic local telecommunications companies. Cap Rock seeks to offer and provide all forms of basic local telecommunications services.

The Telecommunications Department Staff (Staff) has reviewed Cap Rock's application and finds it meets the required managerial, technical, and financial standards. Staff recommends

Appendix A

MISSOURI

Public Service Commission

Case No. TA-2000-252 Page 2 of 2

Commission grant Cap Rock a certificate of service authority to provide basic local telecommunications service with the following three requirements: 1) notwithstanding the provisions of Section 392.500 RSMo (1994), as a condition of certification and competitive classification, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the applicant's originating and terminating access rates will be no greater than the lowest Commission approved corresponding access rates for the large incumbent LEC(s) for each service area within which the applicant seeks authority to provide service; 2) the grant of service authority and competitive classification to Cap Rock should be expressly conditioned on the continued applicability of Section 392.200, RSMo. Supp. 1998, and on the requirement that any increases in switched access services rates above the maximum switched access service rates set forth in item number 1 (above), must be filed pursuant to Sections 392.220, RSMo Supp. 1998 and 392.230 RSMo (1994), rather than Sections 392.500 and 392.510 RSMo (1994); and, 3) that Cap Rock's certificate becomes effective on the same day its tariff becomes effective.

Staff recommends the Commission order Cap Rock to file a basic local telecommunications tariff within 30 days following the Commission's approval of an interconnection agreement, and that the filed tariff have an effective date 45 days following the date the tariff is filed with the Commission. Cap Rock has not filed any proposed interconnection agreements with this Commission.

Copies:

Director – Utility Operations Division

Director - Research and Public Affairs Division

Director - Utility Services Division

General Counsel

Mark P. Johnson - Attorney for Applicant

Office of the Public Counsel

MEMO

To:

Tom Solt

Telecommunications Department

From:

David Broadwater

Financial Analysis Department

Subject:

CapRock Telecommunications

Date:

November 8, 1999

MO PSC Case No. TA-2000-252

Financial Analysis Department Comments

We have reviewed the financial information as submitted by CapRock Telecommunications (Company) in their Application TA-2000-252. This financial information is the responsibility of the Company's management and is provided by them. The responsibility of the Financial Analysis Department is to review the financial information as provided by the Company in the Application. We plan and perform the review to ascertain that the Company meets the minimum financial standard.

Our analysis indicates that the Company does meet the minimum standard cash or equivalent working capital of at least four (4) months operating expenses inclusive of interest expense and taxes.

We believe that our review provides a reasonable basis for the opinion expressed above.

Service List for Case No. TA-2000-252 November 15, 1999

Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Mark P. Johnson Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal 4520 Main Street, Ste. 1100 Kansas City, MO 64111