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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Interconnection Agreement of )  
GTE Midwest Incorporated and Atlas Mobilfone, Inc. ) Case No. TO-98-209  
)

**ORDER GRANTING PARTICIPATION**

On November 19, 1997, GTE Midwest Incorporated (GTE) and Atlas Mobilfone, Inc. (Atlas), filed an Application with the Commission for approval of an interconnection agreement between GTE and Atlas under the provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). The Commission issued an Order and Notice directing interested parties to file applications to participate and requests for hearing no later than December 15. The Commission ordered that only participation, and not intervention, would be permitted in this case.

The following parties filed timely applications for participation:

**The Small Telephone Company Group**

(BPS Telephone Company, Cass County Telephone Company, Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville, Missouri, Inc., Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Ellington Telephone Company, Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation, Green Hills Telephone Corporation, Holway Telephone Company, Iamo Telephone Company, Kingdom Telephone Company, KLM Telephone Company, Lathrop Telephone Company, Mark Twain Rural Telephone Company, McDonald County Telephone Company, Miller Telephone Company, New Florence Telephone Company, New London Telephone Company, Orchard Farm Telephone Company, Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc., and Stoutland Telephone Company);

**Fidelity Telephone Company; and**

**Bourbeuse Telephone Company.**

The Small Telephone Company Group, Fidelity Telephone Company and Bourbeuse Telephone Company all stated that they have concerns about how the proposed agreement might affect their operations and their existing relationships with GTE and Atlas. More specifically, the Small Telephone Company Group, Fidelity Telephone Company and Bourbeuse Telephone Company all stated they are concerned with the effect, if any, the proposed interconnection agreement with a wireless carrier may have upon agreements between wireless carriers and other local exchange companies in light of the Commission's recent ruling in United Telephone Company of Missouri's Complaint Against Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for Failure to Pay Terminating Access for Cellular-Originated Calls Terminating in United's Territory, Case No. TC-96-112, and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's recent tariff filing designed to revise its Wireless Carrier Interconnection Service, Case No. TT-97-524.

The Commission has reviewed the joint application and finds it is in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding participation without intervention and that the applicants each have an interest in this matter which is different from that of the general public. The Commission concludes that all these requests for participation should be granted.

No requests for hearing were submitted on or before December 15. The Commission finds that a hearing is not necessary to resolve the issues in this case. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989). The Commission finds that the comments addressing whether this agreement meets the federal standards for approval of interconnection agreements must be filed no later than January 18, 1998.

**THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That the following parties are granted participation without intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(5):

**The Small Telephone Company Group**

(BPS Telephone Company, Cass County Telephone Company, Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville, Missouri, Inc., Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Ellington Telephone Company, Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation, Green Hills Telephone Corporation, Holway Telephone Company, Iamo Telephone Company, Kingdom Telephone Company, KLM Telephone Company, Lathrop Telephone Company, Mark Twain Rural Telephone Company, McDonald County Telephone Company, Miller Telephone Company, New Florence Telephone Company, New London Telephone Company, Orchard Farm Telephone Company, Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc., and Stoutland Telephone Company);

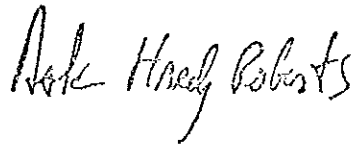
**Fidelity Telephone Company; and**

**Bourbeuse Telephone Company.**

2. That the comments addressing whether this agreement meets the federal standards for approval of interconnection agreements must be filed no later than January 20, 1998.

3. That this order shall be effective on January 13, 1998.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



(S E A L)

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

Kevin F. Hennessey, 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 13th day of January, 1998.

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COMMISSION COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION