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February 10, 2000

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DONNA M. KOLILIS
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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

FILED

FEB 10 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

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

RE: TO-2000-16

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and fourteen (14) conformed copies of **STAFF'S REPORT REGARDING STATUS OF THE CASE AND NOTICE REGARDING THE FILING OF A STIPULATION.**

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,

Keith R. Krueger
Deputy General Counsel
(573) 751-4140
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

KK/jb
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

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

FILED

FEB 10 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Motion to Establish a)
Docket Investigating the IntraLATA Toll)
Service Provisioning Practices of Missouri)
Interexchange Carriers, Public utility or)
Common Carrier Duties of Interexchange)
Carriers, Motion to Show Cause, Request)
for Emergency hearing, and Alternative)
Petition for Suspension and Modification)

Case No. TO-2000-16

**STAFF'S REPORT REGARDING STATUS OF THE CASE AND NOTICE
REGARDING THE FILING OF A STIPULATION**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), and for its Report Regarding Status of the Case and Notice Regarding the Filing of a Stipulation states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

1. On November 19, 1999, the Staff filed a Proposed Procedural Schedule, in which it stated, among other things, that the parties to this case had unanimously agreed that the issues in this case could be adequately and completely presented to the Commission through the filing of a stipulation and the submission of two sets of briefs. The Proposed Procedural Schedule further stated that the parties agreed to informally circulate a proposed stipulation of facts to all parties by no later than December 17, 1999.

2. The parties had agreed among themselves that the Mid-Missouri Group, now known as Missouri Independent Telephone Group ("MITG"), which, on July 9, 1999, filed the motion that led to the establishment of this docket, would prepare and circulate such a stipulation of facts to the other parties.

3. On December 7, 1999, the Commission issued a Notice Regarding Procedural Schedule, in which it stated that if the parties filed a stipulated set of facts, the Commission would establish a briefing schedule in accordance with the proposal in the November 19, 1999 filing.

4. On January 31, 1999, the Commission issued an order Regarding Procedural Schedule, in which it directed the Staff to file, within 10 days, a pleading explaining the status of the case and stating the date on which it anticipates filing a stipulation.

5. MITG has not prepared a draft stipulation of facts, and has informed the Staff that it does not believe it can prepare a stipulation of facts that will be acceptable to all of the parties to this case. MITG has further informed the Staff that it will probably seek to have this case dismissed, if any necessary consents to such dismissal can be obtained.

6. On July 15, 1999, the Small Telephone Company Group ("STCG") filed its Concurrence in the Motion of the Mid-Missouri Group to Establish Docket in this case. The Staff therefore submits that this docket should not be closed without the consent of the STCG. However, the Staff does not know of any other party that desires to keep this docket open, and does not believe that the consent of any other party to the closing of the docket would be required.

7. Staff therefore states that it is not now possible to file a stipulation of facts, because no draft stipulation has been prepared, and further states that there is no need to immediately establish a procedural schedule in this case, because of the apparent lack of interest by the moving parties in doing so.

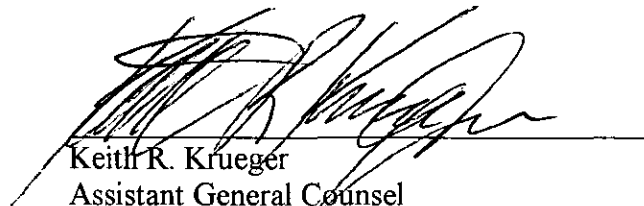
8. Staff further requests that if the Commission has not received all pleadings that are necessary for the voluntary dismissal of this case by no later than February 28, 2000, the

Commission order a prehearing conference among all parties for the purpose of proposing a procedural schedule.

WHEREFORE, the Staff submits this report on the status of this case and its notice regarding the filing of a stipulation, and requests that if MITG and STCG have not filed their consents to the dismissal of this case by February 28, 2000, the Commission order the parties to attend a prehearing conference.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

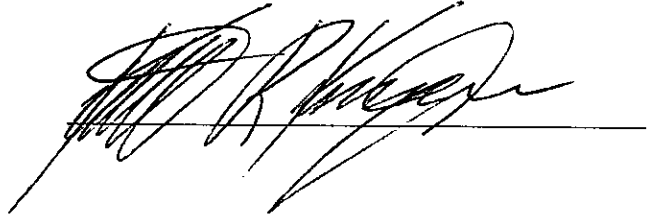


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Certificate of Service

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 10th day of February, 2000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. R. [unclear]", is written over a horizontal line.

**Service List for
Case No. TO-2000-16
February 10, 2000**

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