## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 19th day of August, 1997.

## ORDER APPROVING TARIFF SHEETS FOR A CHANGE OF RATE PERIODS FOR RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Sprint Communications Company, L.P. (Sprint L.P.) submitted tariff sheets for Commission approval on July 21, 1997, designed to make textual changes and to change rate periods for residential Sprint Service, Operator Service, and FONCARD products. The tariff sheets, given the filing number 9800065, carry an effective date of August 20.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Suspend on August 12, asking the Commission to suspend file no. 9800065 until Sprint gives adequate notice of the proposed increase in rates for certain hours. Section 392.500(2), RSMo Supp. 1996, permits changes in rates or charges "upon notice to all potentially affected customers through a notice in each such customer's bill at least ten days prior to the date for implementation of such increase or change." Sprint L.P. sent notice to its customers (See Attachment A to Staff's Motion to Suspend) setting out the changes in rate periods that would result from approval of these tariff sheets. However, Staff argues that it is not clear from the notice that the changes will result in de facto increases in the rates themselves when some calling hours are reclassified.

The Commission has reviewed the tariff sheets and the Staff's motion and finds that Sprint L.P. has complied with the statutory notice requirement. Although the notice does not spell out the effect of the change in hours for day, evening and night, it is clear that the peak calling period will be extended. A reasonable customer should understand that the peak calling period is generally more expensive than an off-peak period. Therefore, the result of this change should be clear. In addition, Sprint L.P. has provided a toll-free telephone number that the customer may call to address any questions or to resolve any uncertainties. Inasmuch as the applicant herein is a competitive interexchange carrier, the Commission does not find it necessary to interfere with its marketing strategy.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the tariff sheets submitted by Sprint Communications Company, L.P. on July 21, 1997 under tariff file no. 9800065 and docketed in Case No. TT-98-60 are hereby approved for service on and after August 20, 1997:

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P.S.C. Mo. No. 2
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- 4th Revised Page 31, Canceling 3rd Revised Page 31 Original Page 31.1
- 3rd Revised Page 32, Canceling 2nd Revised Page 32
- 2nd Revised Page 32.1, Canceling 1st Revised Page 32.1
- 3rd Revised Page 45, Canceling 2nd Revised Page 45
- 3rd Revised Page 47, Canceling 2nd Revised Page 47
- 3rd Revised Page 63, Canceling 2nd Revised Page 63
- 3rd Revised Page 64, Canceling 2nd Revised Page 64
- 8th Revised Page A-1, Canceling 7th Revised Page A-1
- 3rd Revised Page A-3, Canceling 2nd Revised Page A-3
- 5th Revised Page A-4, Canceling 4th Revised Page A-4
- 4th Revised Page A-37, Canceling 3rd Revised Page A-37
- 7th Revised Page A-38, Canceling 6th Revised Page A-38

2. That this order shall become effective on August 20, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

Ceil July

Cecil I. Wright Executive Secretary

( S E A L )

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

ALJ: Wickliffe