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

In the Matter of the Application of)
Midwestern Services L.C. d/b/a)
Midwestern Tel, for a Certificate of)
Service Authority to Provide Basic)
Local Telecommunications Services and)
Local Exchange Telecommunications)
Services in the State of Missouri and)
to Classify the Company and Its)
Services as Competitive.)

CASE NO. TA-97-469

ORDER DIRECTING THE FILING OF FINANCIAL DATA

Midwestern Services L.C. d/b/a Midwestern Tel (Midwestern) applied to the Commission on April 23, 1997 for a certificate of service authority to provide basic local and local exchange telecommunications services in Missouri under Sections 392.420 - .440, RSMo 1994, and Sections 392.410 and .450, RSMo Supp. 1996.¹ Midwestern asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by Sections 392.361 and 392.420, RSMo 1994.

The parties filed a Stipulation And Agreement (Stipulation) on September 4. The Commission Staff (Staff) filed Suggestions in Support of the Stipulation And Agreement on September 10. The Stipulation states as follows: "Midwestern asserts, and no party makes a contrary assertion, that there is sufficient evidence from which the Commission should find and conclude that Midwestern: A. possesses sufficient technical, financial and

¹ Midwestern filed an Amended Application on June 18.

managerial resources and abilities to provide basic local telecommunications services." Stipulation at 5(emphasis added). However, the parties did not submit any financial information above and beyond the information submitted with Midwestern's Amended Application, which was limited to the following statements: "Applicant has ample financial resources and abilities to support its operations in Missouri. Applicant can provide sufficient financial support for its Missouri operations. Applicant estimates that the capital working position of Applicant will be in the range of several million in the next three calendar years." Amended Application at 6. Furthermore, the Staff's Suggestions did not contain any additional information.

The Commission finds that it is unable to determine whether Midwestern has sufficient financial resources and abilities to provide basic local telecommunications services as required by 392.455, RSMo. Supp. 1996, because the information submitted is not detailed enough to support a finding of sufficiency. The Commission further finds that the parties should be given an opportunity to present additional information to the Commission upon which to base its decision whether to grant the relief requested by Midwestern.

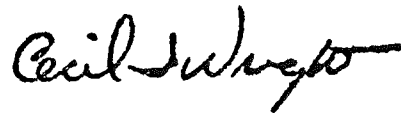
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Midwestern Services L.C. d/b/a Midwestern Tel shall file information demonstrating that it has sufficient financial resources and abilities to provide basic local telecommunications services no later than October 9, 1997.
2. That Midwestern Services L.C. d/b/a Midwestern Tel shall serve copies of the additional data submitted pursuant to Ordered paragraph 1 on all parties.

3. That responses to the financial data shall be filed no later than October 16, 1997.

4. That this order shall become effective on September 25, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cecil I. Wright". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary**

(S E A L)

Elaine E. Bensavage, Administrative 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 25th day of September, 1997.