

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

Big River Telephone Company, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. TC-2012-0284</u>
)	
Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P.,)	
d/b/a AT&T Missouri,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

**ORDER DIRECTING FILING OF ANSWER AND STAFF REPORT
AND SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

Issue Date: July 16, 2012

Effective Date: July 16, 2012

On March 1, 2012, Big River Telephone Company, LLC ("Big River") filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a AT&T Missouri ("AT&T"). AT&T filed a *Request for Mediation* on March 26, 2012, and Big River filed a response agreeing to the request for voluntary mediation. On April 16, 2012, the Commission appointed a mediator to attempt a resolution of this matter, but on July 11, 2012, the mediator notified the Commission that mediation was unsuccessful.

When AT&T requested mediation, the 30-day time period for answering the complaint was tolled. Since the mediation was not successful, the Commission will now set a new deadline for filing an answer or satisfying the complaint. There is no time remaining of the original 30-day time period for filing an answer, so AT&T will have an additional two weeks to answer the complaint.

The Commission also finds that a prehearing conference is now appropriate. The parties or their representatives shall appear in person, or by telephone, at the conference. Parties wishing to appear by telephone will be provided with a telephone conference number prior to the prehearing conference. At the conference, parties should be prepared to discuss the nature of any discovery each will conduct and the time necessary to complete discovery and prepare for hearing. The parties should also be prepared to name the witnesses each expects to call at hearing; the number and nature of any exhibits each expects to offer at hearing; and the anticipated length of the hearing. Also, the parties should be prepared to discuss the elements of a joint procedural schedule, including dates for monthly discovery conferences, an evidentiary hearing, and the filing of pre-filed testimony, list of issues and witnesses, order of witnesses and opening statements, position statements, post-hearing briefs, and proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. AT&T shall satisfy the complaint or file an answer no later than July 31, 2012.
2. A prehearing conference shall be held on August 8, 2012, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in Room 305 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. This meeting will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the conference.

3. The Commission's Staff shall conduct an investigation of this matter and file a report of its findings no later than August 29, 2012.

4. This order is effective immediately on issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Reed', is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary.

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(SEAL)

Michael Bushmann, Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
on this 16th day of July, 2012.