OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Americatel
Corporation and Startec Global Operating Company
for Approval of a Pro Forma Merger

Case No. TM-2008-0146
)

ORDER GRANTING STAFF'S REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: January 2, 2008 Effective Date: January 2, 2008

On November 6, 2007, Americatel Corporation ("Americatel") and Startec Global Operating Company ("Startec") filed a verified application with the Commission seeking the Commission's approval of a *pro forma* corporate restructuring plan whereby Americatel and Startec would be merged, with Americatel emerging as the surviving entity. They also requested that the Commission grant a waiver of the Commission's rules governing changes to a customer's telecommunications carrier to the extent they are inconsistent with the FCC's rules governing the sale of a carrier's customer base. The joint applicants anticipate completing the proposed merger on or before March 31, 2008.

On November 13, 2007, the Commission issued an order directing Staff to inform the Commission, by no later than November 30, 2007, when Staff would file its recommendation in this matter. On November 30, 2007, Staff filed a pleading indicating it would file its recommendation by no later than December 21, 2007. Later, on December 20, 2007, Staff filed a motion requesting that the Commission extend Staff's deadline to file a recommendation from December 21, 2007 to February 29, 2008, explaining that "[i]n the course of Staff's review of the Joint Application filed by the parties, additional questions

have arisen which will require additional investigation by Staff and communication with the companies before Staff is able to file its recommendation in this matter."

Although the 10-day response period allowed by the Commission's rules has now run,¹ no one has expressed any opposition to Staff's motion. For this reason, and because the requested relief is authorized by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.050(3)(A) and appears to be reasonable under the circumstances, Staff's motion shall be granted.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Staff's Motion for Extension of Time to File Recommendation is granted. Staff shall file its recommendation in this matter by no later than February 29, 2008.
 - 2. This order shall become effective on January 2, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 2nd day of January, 2008.

¹ Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(15) provides that, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, "[p]arties shall be allowed not more than ten (10) days from the date of filing in which to respond to any pleading."