

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

Application of BPS Telephone Company for     )  
Approval of an Agreement for Interconnection     )  
Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996     )

**Case No. TK-2008-0239**

**ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE AND MAKING**  
**BIG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY A PARTY**

Issue Date: January 24, 2008

Effective Date: January 24, 2008

This order provides notice of this application to interested parties and joins the other party to the interconnection agreement, Big River Telephone Company, as a party to this proceeding.

On January 22, 2008, BPS Telephone Company filed an application with the Commission for approval of an interconnection agreement with Big River under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. BPS states that there are no unresolved issues and that the agreement complies with Section 252(e) of the Act in that it is not discriminatory to nonparty carriers and is consistent with the public interest. BPS requests expeditious approval of the agreement.

Although Big River is a party to the agreement, it did not join in the application. Because Big River is a necessary party to a full and fair adjudication of this matter, the Commission will add it as a party to this case.

The Act provides that an interconnection or resale agreement must be approved unless the state commission finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or that implementation of the

agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.<sup>1</sup> Section 252(e)(4) of the Act provides that if the Commission has not approved an agreement within 90 days after submission, the agreement shall be deemed approved. Therefore, the Commission will proceed with this case expeditiously. The Commission finds that proper persons shall be allowed 20 days from the issuance of this order to file a motion for hearing. The Commission also finds that notice of this application shall be sent to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Commission's Data Center shall send notice to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.
2. Big River Telephone Company is made a party to this case.
3. Any party wishing to request a hearing shall do so by filing a pleading no later than February 13, 2008, with:

Colleen M. Dale, Secretary  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
Post Office Box 360  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and send copies to:

L. Russell Mitten  
Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C.  
312 E. Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

John Jennings  
Big River Telephone Company  
24 South Minnesota Avenue  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

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<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).

and:

Office of the Public Counsel  
Post Office Box 2230  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

4. The Staff of the Commission shall file a memorandum advising either approval or rejection of this agreement and giving the reasons therefor no later than February 25, 2008.

5. This order shall become effective on January 24, 2008.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Colleen M. Dale, Chief Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 24th day of January, 2008.