

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

In the Matter of the Application of USCOC of)
Greater Missouri, LLC for Designation as an)
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier)
Pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996) **Case No. TO-2005-0384**

**ORDER ESTABLISHING TIME TO RESPOND TO STAFF'S
RECOMMENDATION AND SHORTENING TIME TO RESPOND TO U.S.
CELLULAR'S MOTION TO LIFT BASELINE INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT**

Issue Date: September 13, 2012

Effective Date: September 13, 2012

USCOC of Greater Missouri, LLC d/b/a U.S. Cellular filed a motion on September 7, 2012, asking the Commission to eliminate one of the conditions the Commission imposed on U.S. Cellular in a 2007 Report and Order that designated the company as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the receipt of high cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund. In that Report and Order, the Commission required U.S. Cellular to meet a baseline investment requirement of a two-year average of \$15 million per year in capital expenditures for construction of cell sites in the rural Missouri market in addition to the support it would be receiving from the federal Universal Service Fund. U.S. Cellular has met that condition since 2007, but now asks that the condition be eliminated because the Federal Communications Commission has moved to eventually eliminate the high-cost support the company has been receiving.

On September 7, the Commission issued an order directing its Staff to file a recommendation regarding U.S. Cellular's motion by September 28. That same order allowed any other party until September 28 to respond to U.S. Cellular's motion. Staff filed its

recommendation on September 13 and advises the Commission to grant U.S. Cellular's motion. Staff also informs the Commission that there is some urgency to U.S. Cellular's request.

Staff explains that it must make its recommendation regarding U.S. Cellular's annual certification to the federal USF administrator by October 1. Allowing other parties until September 28 to file responses to U.S. Cellular's motion would allow the Commission little time to consider those responses before the annual certification deadline. For that reason, Staff urges the Commission to shorten the time allowed to file a response.

Staff's concerns are reasonable and the Commission will shorten the time to file a response.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Any party wishing to respond to Staff's recommendation regarding USCOC of Greater Missouri, LLC d/b/a U.S. Cellular's Motion to Lift Baseline Investment Requirement shall do so no later than 1:00 p.m. on September 21, 2012.

2. Any party wishing to respond to USCOC of Greater Missouri, LLC d/b/a U.S. Cellular's Motion to Lift Baseline Investment Requirement shall do so no later than 1:00 p.m. on September 21, 2012.

3. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

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

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 13th day of September, 2012.