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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Metro)
Connection, Inc. d/b/a TransAmerican)
Telephone for a Certificate of Service)
Authority to Provide Basic Local Tele-)
communications Service in Portions of the)
State of Missouri and to Classify Said)
Services as Competitive.)

CASE NO. TA-97-556

ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION AND DIRECTING
FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Metro Connection, Inc. d/b/a TransAmerican Telephone (Metro Connection) filed an application on June 23, 1997, for a certificate of service authority to provide basic local telecommunications services in the State of Missouri under 4 CSR 240-2.060(4). Specifically, Metro Connection wishes to provide resold services in all the exchanges currently served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT), GTE Midwest Incorporated (GTE), and United Telephone Company of Missouri (United). The Commission issued an order and notice, directing interested parties to file applications to intervene no later than August 1.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed an application to intervene on July 24. SWBT states that it has a direct interest in the Commission's decision in this case because it provides basic local exchange services and will be in direct competition with this company if the certificate is granted. SWBT argues that no other party will adequately protect its interests in this matter and that its intervention would be in the public interest because of SWBT's expertise and experience in the telecommunications industry.

The Commission has reviewed the application to intervene and finds that it is in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding

intervention and that SWBT has an interest in this matter which is different from that of the general public. The Commission concludes that the request for intervention should be granted and that the parties should file a proposed procedural schedule. The procedural schedule must include either dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing, or a date for the filing of a Stipulation and Agreement. If no party requests a hearing, the Commission may grant the service authority and competitive classification requested without a hearing. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

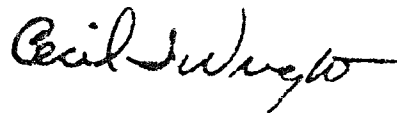
1. That Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is granted intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4).

2. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than September 11, 1997. The procedural schedule shall include either dates for the filing of testimony, or for the filing of a Stipulation and Agreement.

3. That this order shall be effective on the date hereof.

(S E A L)

BY THE COMMISSION



**Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary**

Gregory T. George, 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 13th day of August, 1997.