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STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 25th day of November, 1997.

In the Matter of the Investigation into the Exhaustion of Central Office Codes in the 417, 816 and New 314 Numbering Plan Areas.)))	<u>Case No. TO-96-1</u>
In the Matter of the Investigation into the Exhaustion of Central Office Codes in the 314 Numbering Plan Area.))	<u>Case No. TO-98-212</u>

ORDER ESTABLISHING CASE AND BIFURCATING CASE

On July 5, 1995, the Commission issued a Report and Order in which it established Case No. TO-96-1 to address the exhaustion of Central Office Codes in the 417, 816, and the new 314 Numbering Plan Areas (NPAs). The Commission addressed the 816 NPA in its Report and Order of April 9, 1997. That order split the pre-existing 816 NPA into an 816\660 NPA. The Commission does not anticipate a need to address 417 NPA exhaustion in the near future and the 660 NPA is currently under permissive dialing. Therefore, the primary issue remaining before the Commission is the resolution of NPA exhaustion in the 314 NPA.

Although the immediate issue before the Commission is the 314 NPA, the service list for TO-96-1 includes parties who have expressed an interest for only one NPA, such as 660. Therefore, the Commission concludes that the both the public interest and judicial efficiency would be served by the creation of a new case to address the 314 NPA exhaustion. The Commission will bifurcate this issue from Case No. TO-96-1. Any

remaining issues relating to the 816\660 NPAs shall be addressed in TO-96-1. When the time comes to address the 417 NPA, any party who wishes to do so may file a motion to open a case for that purpose.

The Commission suspended the procedural schedule for addressing 314 NPA exhaustion on November 20 and simultaneously directed the parties to file their proposed procedural schedule(s) with the hearing date in January of 1998 unless good cause exists to hold the hearing at a later date. The proposed procedural schedules are due on December 5. On November 21, the Commission's Staff (Staff) filed its proposed procedural schedule, requesting that the hearing be held on February 9, 10 and 11, 1998, because the Technical Committee's report on the 314 NPA exhaust will not be ready until January 9 and it was the Technical Committee's intent to submit the report before the parties filed their direct testimony. No other party has proposed a procedural schedule to date.

The Commission will not assume that all of the parties to TO-96-1 have an interest in the 314 NPA. Therefore, any party to Case No. TO-96-1 who wishes to participate in the investigation of the current 314 exhaustion shall file a Notice of Participation in TO-98-212.

The Commission's November 20 Order Suspending Procedural Schedule and Continuing Hearing shall apply in Case No. TO-98-212 rather than Case No. TO-96-1 and only those parties to Case No. TO-98-212 should be required to comply with that order as if it had been issued in Case No. TO-98-212. The Staff's November 21 Motion to Adopt Procedural Schedule shall be treated as though filed in Case No. TO-98-212.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Case No. TO-98-212 is established to consider the matter of the investigation into the exhaustion of Central Office Codes in the 314 Numbering Plan Area.

2. That all issues related to the exhaustion of Central Office Codes in the 314 Numbering Plan Area are bifurcated from Case No. TO-96-1.

3. That the parties to Case No. TO-96-1 shall file a notice in Case No. TO-98-212 no later than December 5, 1997, indicating whether they

wish to retain their status as parties in Case No. TO-98-212.

4. That all parties notifying the Commission by December 5, 1997, that they wish to be a party in Case No. TO-98-212 shall be treated as

parties to Case No. TO-98-212 without further order of the Commission.

5. That the Commission's November 20, 1997, Order Suspending

Procedural Schedule and Continuing Hearing in Case No. TO-96-1 is modified

to apply only to the parties to Case No. TO-98-212 and to require the

parties to file their proposed procedural schedule(s) in Case No. TO-98-212

rather than Case No. TO-96-1.

6. That the Motion to Adopt Procedural Schedule filed by the

Missouri Public Service Commission's Staff on November 21, 1997, shall be

treated as though filed in Case No. TO-98-212.

7. That this order shall become effective on November 25, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

Hole HARd Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Drainer and Murray, CC., concur.

Randles, Regulatory Law Judge