## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

An Investigation of the Fiscal and Operational	)	
Reliability of Cass County Telephone Company	)	Case No. TO-2005-023
and New Florence Telephone Company, and	)	
and Related Matters of Illegal Activity.	)	

## **ORDER DISMISSING CASE**

Issued Date: July 15, 2005 Effective Date: July 15, 2005

On January 14, 2005, the Commission established this case, during the course of which the Staff of the Commission has been pursuing an investigation of Cass County Telephone Company and New Florence Telephone Company. That investigation led Staff to file a complaint against Cass County Telephone Company on April 8, 2005. Since the investigation in this case has now led to the filing of a complaint, there is no longer a need to keep this investigation case open and the Commission will close it.

The Commission's Staff, under the direction of its Executive Director, enjoys all necessary statutory authority to investigate and review any matter of concern touching upon the safe and responsible operation of a regulated utility. There is no requirement that such investigations be conducted within an active docket. Staff may, from time-to-time, apply to any member of the Commission for such subpoenas as it believes will assist it in any investigation it is conducting. There is no requirement that such subpoenas be issued within an active docket. Whenever such an investigation produces information that would support a complaint, then the Commission's General Counsel may apply to the Commission for authority to file that complaint.

The Commission expects that Staff will promptly investigate any concerns it may have related to Cass County Telephone Company and New Florence Telephone Company. There is no requirement that this investigation be conducted within an active docket. The Commission expects that Staff will seek authority to file any appropriate actions that its findings would support. In the event that Staff's investigation results in a determination that no further action or actions are necessary, the Commission expects Staff to embody those findings in a written report to the Commission.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That this case is closed.
- 2. That all pending motions are denied.
- 3. That this order shall become effective on July 15, 2005.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Kevin A. Thompson, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 15th day of July, 2005