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office to several customer areas, and that incorporating these areas into the O'Fallon exchange and thus serving it via the new copper facility will enable GTE to economically provide service to this area. Staff asserts this is preferable to constructing additional trunks in the St. Peters exchange to replace the exhausted facilities. Staff has stated that GTE's officials indicated that construction of the copper facility should be complete on or about June 1, 1996. Staff has further noted that this modification will not affect any customers as there are currently no customers in the area to be annexed to the O'Fallon exchange area. In addition, the O'Fallon/St. Peters interexchange traffic is rated as local calling because both exchanges are in a metropolitan area. Therefore, customers in the West 70 Commerce Center area to be affected will be able to call both exchanges without incurring long distance charges.

Staff states that it does not object to the proposal. Further, Staff recommends expedited approval of the proposed tariff sheets. Lastly, Staff notes that it is not aware of any other filings which affect or which would be affected by this proposal.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed tariff sheets, the Staff memorandum and the entirety of the file, and makes the following findings of fact. The Commission finds that GTE has shown that the proposed boundary change is necessary under the circumstances and that no customers will be affected by the proposed boundary change. The Commission finds that the proposed change may be the most cost-effective change for the company and that these cost savings may ultimately inure to the benefit of the ratepayers. The Commission finds that the proposed tariff sheets are just and reasonable and the Commission will grant approval on an expedited basis.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the tariff sheets bearing tariff file number 9600628 and which were submitted by GTE Midwest Incorporated and docketed in this case on April 4, 1996, are hereby approved for service on and after April 25, 1996. The tariff sheets approved are:

PSC MO. NO. 7

1st Revised Sheet 291, Cancelling Original Sheet 291  
1st Revised Sheet 292, Cancelling Original Sheet 292  
1st Revised Sheet 347, Cancelling Original Sheet 347  
1st Revised Sheet 348, Cancelling Original Sheet 348

2. That this order shall become effective on the 25th day of April, 1996.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



**David L. Rauch  
Executive Secretary**

( S E A L )

Zobrist, Chm., Crumpton and  
Drainer, CC., concur.  
McClure and Kincheloe, CC.,  
absent.