

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Windstream Missouri, Inc.'s Tariffs)	
Filed to Adjust Rates and Rebalance Local Basic Rates)	<u>Case No. TT-2009-0134</u>
and Switched Access Rates Under Section 392.245,)	Tariff No. JI-2009-0198
RSMo, as amended by H.B. 1779.)	

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: October 17, 2008

Effective Date: October 17, 2008

On October 15, 2008, the Office of the Public Counsel filed a pleading objecting to the basic local rate increase proposed by Windstream Missouri, Inc., in Tariff No. JI-2009-0198. That tariff submission purports to adjust Windstream's maximum allowable prices and current rates for basic local telecommunications service and service charges by the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in accordance with Section 392.245(1)(a), RSMo.¹ Windstream also increases its access line rates by \$1.50 and offsets that revenue increase by decreasing its Terminating Intrastate IntraLATA CCL access rate by \$.0137 per minute of use. Finally, the tariff also increases rates for certain non-basic charges.

Even though Public Counsel recognizes that "HB 1779, seems to give Windstream unbridled discretion to rebalance with or without any justification," he still requests that the Commission conduct an investigation into "the reasonableness of the rebalancing and its impact on the ratepayers and the public interest and to determine if the

¹ As amended by H.B. 1779, effective August 28, 2008.

IXCs carry out their obligation to pass this reduction in access rates through to their [Missouri] customers by a reduction in long distance rates.”

The Commission directs its Staff and Windstream to respond to the pleading and sets a date for any other responses to be filed.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and Windstream Missouri, Inc., shall file a response to the Office of the Public Counsel’s Objection to Local Basic Rate Increase Under Rebalancing Statute no later than October 23, 2008.
2. Any other responses to the Office of the Public Counsel’s pleading shall be filed no later than October 23, 2008
3. This order is effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', is written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 17th day of October, 2008.