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September 19, 2002

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FILED²
SEP 19 2002
Missouri Public
Service Commission

Re: Case No. TM-2002-465

Dear Judge Roberts:

Attached for filing with the Commission is the original and five (5) copies of AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc.'s Reply to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Response in the above-referenced docket.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in bringing this to the attention of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

Rebecca B. DeCook

Attachment

cc: All Parties of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE
STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²
SEP 19 2002

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Joint Application)
of Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone)
Company and Modern Telecom-)
munications Company for Approval)
to Merge Modern Telecommunications)
Company and Northeast Missouri)
Rural Telephone Company.)

Case No. TM-2002-465

Position Statement of
AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc.

Comes now AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc. and submits the following statement of position.

1. Is the merger detrimental to the public interest?

Position: AT&T takes no position on this issue.

2. Is the merger detrimental to the interest of local customers of Modern?

Position: AT&T takes no position on this issue.

3. Is the merger detrimental to the interest of local customers of Northeast?

Position: AT&T takes no position on this issue.

4. Is the merger detrimental to the interest of any access service customers of Modern?

Position: To the extent that the combined entity undertakes any regulatory initiatives as part of this merger such as the revenue neutral access rate design proceeding, none of those costs should be passed to switched access

customers. Forcing access customers to incur additional costs as part of this merger would make this merger detrimental to the public interest.

5. Is the merger detrimental to the interest of any access service customers of Northeast?

Position:

6. What conditions, if any, as proposed by Staff, should be attached to approval of the merger?

Position

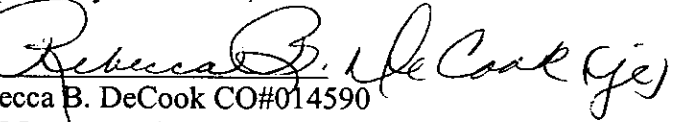
AT&T agrees with that conditions proposed by Staff should be attached to the approval of the merger.

7. What depreciation rates should be prescribed for the merged company?

Position

AT&T takes no position on this issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

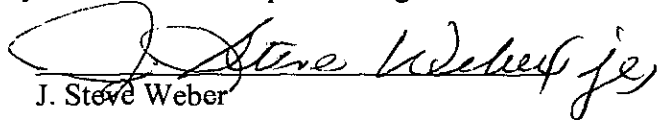
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ATTORNEYS FOR AT&T
COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
SOUTHWEST, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was mailed, via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, this 19th day of Sept., 2002, to all attorneys of record in this proceeding.


J. Steve Weber

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