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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 2nd
day of September, 1997.

In the Matter of the Application of Communications)
Cable-Laying Company, d/b/a Dial U.S., for)
Variance and Waiver of Certain Commission Rules)
and Regulations for Purposes of Providing a) Case No. TA-97-540
Prepaid Basic Local Exchange Service Within the)
State of Missouri.)
)

ORDER ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Communications Cable-Laying Company, d/b/a Dial U.S. (Dial U.S.)
filed an Application for Waiver and/or Variance of Certain Commission Rules
on June 13, 1997, asking the Commission to grant additional waivers beyond
those granted to the company in its certification cases. Dial U.S. filed
a proposed tariff and the Commission suspended the tariff's effective date
by order issued on July 25, until December 28, or until otherwise ordered.
In the same order the Commission granted participation to GTE Midwest
Incorporated, set a hearing date, and directed the parties to file a
proposed procedural schedule no later than August 25. Dial U.S. filed a
Proposed Procedural Schedule on August 25. The motion did not state that
the parties were filing the proposed schedule jointly. Commission rules
permit parties ten days to respond to a pleading filed by another party.
In this case, a ten-day delay in issuing an order regarding this procedural
schedule would result in unnecessary delay in a matter that must proceed
expeditiously. Accordingly, the Commission will adopt the procedural
schedule as proposed. Any party objecting to the schedule may file an

alternative proposal for the Commission's consideration. In addition, the Commission finds that the following conditions shall be applied to the schedule.

A. The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays in the proceedings caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing. The Commission expects the parties to comply with the requirements of 4 CSR 240-2.130, including the filing of testimony on line-numbered pages.

B. Testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless a protective order has first been established by the Commission. The party that considers the information to be proprietary or highly confidential should request a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.

C. The Commission will schedule a prehearing conference to allow the parties the opportunity to resolve substantive issues as well as to consider those matters described in 4 CSR 240-2.090(6). The parties shall also use the prehearing conference to eliminate issues which can be resolved through updating of a party's case, clarification of misunderstandings, explanation of an issue's interrelationship with other issues, and correction of clerical or arithmetic errors.

D. The parties shall file a hearing memorandum setting out the issues to be heard and the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, definitions of terms used in describing those issues, and each party's position on those issues. The Commission Staff will be responsible for

preparing and filing the hearing memorandum. The Commission wishes to emphasize the importance of the deadline for filing the hearing memorandum. Unless the Commission orders otherwise, the hearing memorandum shall be filed on the date set. Each party is expected to provide Staff with its position on each unresolved issue at least two business days before the due date. If a party fails to provide its position by that date, the Staff is not obligated to include that party's position in the hearing memorandum.

The hearing memorandum will set forth the issues that are to be heard and decided by the Commission. Any issue not contained in the hearing memorandum will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission. The briefs to be submitted by the parties shall follow the same format established in the hearing memorandum. Initial briefs must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

E. The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the conclusion of the hearing. Any party seeking to expedite the filing of the transcript shall tender a written request to the administrative law judge at least five days before the hearing.

F. The Commission is of the opinion that the length of initial briefs should be limited to 30 pages and reply briefs to 15 pages. All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.080(7).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the following procedural schedule is adopted for this proceeding, subject to the conditions discussed above:

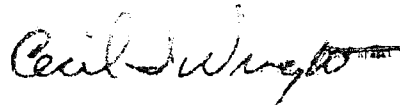
Early prehearing conference	-	September 9, 1997, 10:00 a.m.
Company's Direct testimony	-	September 15, 1997, 3:00 p.m.
Rebuttal testimony	-	October 15, 1997, 3:00 p.m.
All Surrebuttal testimony	-	October 27, 1997, 3:00 p.m.
Hearing Memorandum	-	November 10, 1997
Prehearing conference	-	November 14, 1997, 9:00 a.m.
Evidentiary hearing	-	November 14, 1997, 10:00 a.m.

2. The prehearing conference and evidentiary hearing will be held in the Commission's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone wishing to attend who has special needs as addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days before the prehearing conference or hearing at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

3. That this order shall become effective on September 2, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

(S E A L)



**Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary**

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

ALJ: Wickliffe