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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Local Exchange)
Telecommunications Companies')
Modernization Plans Pursuant to)
4 CSR 240-32.100.) CASE NO. TO-93-309

In the Matter of KLM Telephone)
Company's Modernization Plans)
Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-32.100) CASE NO. TO-97-555

ORDER ESTABLISHING DOCKET AND SETTING
PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On May 14, 1993, the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) established Case No. TO-93-309 to receive the 3-, 5-, and 7-year modernization plans required to be filed by local exchange telecommunications companies (LECs) operating in Missouri pursuant to 4 CSR 240-32.100. By June 18, 1993, each LEC had submitted a filing to the docket.

On August 24, 1993, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum concerning the modernization filings. Staff attached a list of LECs with which it had not reached agreement on a modernization plan, and recommended that hearings be scheduled on the modernization plans of the LECs on the list. Staff also recommended that the hearings not be scheduled concurrently, so that earlier hearings might clarify some issues for later hearings.

The Commission finds that hearings should be scheduled for those LECs on Staff's list, and that the hearings should not be scheduled concurrently. The Commission is of the opinion that the most equitable

procedure is to schedule hearings for the LECs on the list by alphabetical order. Because Case No. TO-93-309 was established only to receive the various modernization plans, separate dockets should be established for the proceedings concerning unresolved modernization plans. Thus, since KLM Telephone Company (KLM) is the next LEC on Staff's list, the Commission will establish Case No. TO-97-555 for the purpose of conducting a hearing on KLM's modernization plan.

The Commission finds that a prehearing conference should be scheduled in Case No. TO-97-555 to allow Staff, KLM, and the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) to address substantive and procedural issues. The Commission also determines that the parties should subsequently file a proposed procedural schedule.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Case No. TO-97-555 is hereby established for the purpose of conducting a hearing on the modernization plans of KLM Telephone Company. The case should be styled as follows: In the Matter of KLM Telephone Company's Modernization Plans Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-32.100.

2. That a prehearing conference is hereby scheduled in Case No. TO-97-555 for 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 1997, in the Commission's hearing room located on the 5th floor of the Harry S. Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone with special needs as addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

3. That the parties participating in the prehearing conference shall file a proposed procedural schedule for Case No. TO-97-555

with the Executive Secretary of the Commission on or before July 29, 1997.

4. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Elaine E. Bensavage, Administrative Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
4 CSR 240-2.120(1) November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 27th day of June, 1997.