

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Big River Telephone Company, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. TC-2012-0284</u>
)	
Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P.,)	
d/b/a AT&T Missouri,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER APPOINTING MEDIATOR

Issue Date: April 16, 2012

Effective Date: April 16, 2012

On March 1, 2012, Big River Telephone Company, LLC ("Complainant") filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a AT&T Missouri ("Respondent"). On March 2, 2012, the Commission issued an *Order Giving Notice of Contested Case and Directing Answer*, requiring Respondent to file an answer to the complaint or request mediation no later than April 2, 2012. Respondent filed a *Request for Mediation* on March 26, 2012. On April 2, 2012, the Commission issued an order requiring Complainant to respond to the *Request for Mediation*. On April 13, 2012, Complainant filed a response agreeing to the Respondent's request for voluntary mediation. As permitted by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.125, the Commission will stay all other proceedings in this matter while the parties mediate.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.125(2), the Commission hereby appoints Kennard Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, as Mediator. The assigned

mediator shall convene an initial conference to discuss a procedural schedule, and each party should be prepared to present its position informally to the Mediator at the initial conference. No materials utilized for mediation shall be filed under this case number to ensure the impartiality of the Presiding Officer and the Commission should mediation fail to resolve the dispute.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. This case is stayed pending the outcome of mediation, which shall be conducted by Kennard Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge.
2. The parties shall mediate their dispute pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.125.
3. No later than May 1, 2012, the parties shall contact the appointed Mediator, Kennard Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, at the Missouri Public Service Commission, 314-340-4700 ext. 24, to initiate the mediation process.
4. No later than May 1, 2012, each party shall submit to the Mediator a written statement summarizing the dispute and shall furnish such other material and information it deems appropriate to familiarize the Mediator with the dispute.
5. All submissions to Mediator Kennard Jones shall be sent to:

Kennard Jones, RLJ
Missouri Public Service Commission
Wainwright State Office Building
111 North 7th St., Suite 105
St. Louis, MO 63101
kennard.jones@psc.mo.gov
6. At the completion of mediation, the parties shall file a joint status report using the Commission's electronic filing and information service under File Number TC-2012-0284.

7. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Reed', is positioned above the printed name.

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Michael Bushmann, Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 16th day of April, 2012.