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March 10, 2004

Via Overnight Delivery

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary of the Commission
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 100
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

FILED²
MAR 11 2004
Missouri Public
Service Commission

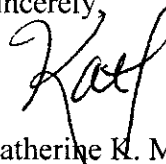
Re: Case No. TO-2004-0207; *In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into the Possibility of Impairment Without Unbundled Local Circuit Switching When Serving the Mass Market*

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of Sage Telecom, Inc., enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter are an original and eight copies of Sage Telecom, Inc.'s Comments on Order Suspending Schedule.

Please file-stamp the enclosed extra copy of this filing and return in the self-addressed, postage paid envelope provided. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Katherine K. Mudge

Encls.

cc: All Parties of Record

FILED²

MAR 11 2004

Missouri Public
Service Commission

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into)
the Possibility of Impairment without)
Unbundled Local Circuit Switching When)
Serving the Mass Market)

Case No. TO-2004-0207

SAGE TELECOM, INC.'S COMMENTS ON ORDER SUSPENDING SCHEDULE

COMES NOW Sage Telecom, Inc. ("Sage") and files these comments regarding the need to continue with the above-referenced proceeding.

1. On March 5, 2004, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued an Order Suspending Schedule and Directing Filing ("Suspension Order"). The Suspension Order suspended all activity in the above-referenced docket, including testimony filings and hearings on discovery disputes.

2. The Suspension Order also requires that the parties submit pleadings stating and explaining their positions on whether to proceed with this case while the DC Circuit Court's decision in *United States Telecom Association v. FCC*, No. 00-1012, slip op. (D.C. Circ. March 2, 2004) ("UTSAIP") is stayed or under appeal. Pleadings were to be filed on or before March 11, 2004, therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

3. Sage requests that this Commission lift the suspension of the procedural schedule submitted by the parties for Phases II and III, and establish a reasonable extension of the procedural schedule to allow the parties and the Commission to proceed with disposition of this case.

4. A significant part of the Commission's work is already done. The Commission issued an Order Establishing Geographic Markets and Enterprise Market

Cutoff ("Phase I Order") on February 24, 2004, and thus concluded Phase I of the Mass Market Switching case. Pursuant to the agreement of the parties, the parties were preparing testimony for Phase II, which dealt with the impairment analysis taking into consideration the Commission's decision in the Phase I Order.


5. Sage submits that the Commission should proceed with the prosecution of Phases II and III of this case as the parties and Commission have expended extensive resources to obtain discovery and information relevant to any impairment review. The information obtained is or should be current, which is an important consideration in the impairment analysis. Regardless of the outcome of the *UTSAII* appeals and stays, it is highly likely that this Commission will, at the very least, be required to obtain facts and evidence for the impairment analysis. Since the parties have invested extensive time and resources to obtain current information, Sage submits that it is more efficient to continue with the prosecution of this case at this time, rather than wait for the legal appeals of *UTSAII* to conclude. With any extensive delay, all of the information, testimony, and analysis will have to be updated, thus, requiring the use of more resources.

WHEREFORE, Sage respectfully requests that the Commission lift the suspension of the procedural schedule for Phases II and III, establish a revised procedural schedule for both Phases, and hold the hearings in this proceeding as originally scheduled and planned.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Katherine K. Mudge

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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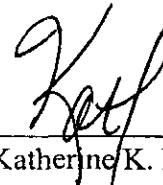
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