

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

In the Matter of the Tariffs to Reduce Access)
Rates of Local Telecommunications Companies) File No. TT-2012-0317
Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission)
Report and Order FCC 11-161.)

THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL’S REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel or OPC) and for its Request for Clarification states as follows:

1. On March 23, 2012, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Open Case asking that the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) issue an Order (1) opening a case file, (2) ordering companies to provide the requested tariff revisions and documentation, (3) reminding companies to appropriately mark confidential information, (4) requiring the proposed tariff filings to be made at least 60 days prior to the effective date, and (5) which is issued on or before April 1, 2012.
2. On March 23, 2012, the Commission issued its Order Directing Notice and Establishing Time to Respond requiring any competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC), incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC), or other party wishing to respond to Staff’s Motion to do so no later than 8:00 a.m. on March 28, 2012. Only Public Counsel filed a response to Staff’s Motion.
3. Staff’s Motion was discussed during the Commission’s Agenda Session on March 28, 2012. During the discussion, the assigned Regulatory Law Judge recommended that the Commission not approve the process described in Staff’s Motion due to the filed response of Public Counsel and instead proceed with each company’s request to reduce access rates individually as they are filed. The Commission agreed with the Judge’s recommendation and the

pending Order Establishing Procedures for Consideration of Access Rate Tariffs was withdrawn from consideration.

4. On March 30, 2012, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri (AT&T) filed its Reply to Public Counsel Comments on Staff Motion to Open Docket. Additionally on April 2, 2012, Alma Communications Company d/b/a Alma Telephone Company, Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, Chariton Valley Telecom Corporation, Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company, and MoKAN Dial Inc., collectively referred to as the Missouri Independent Telephone Group (MITG) filed their Reply to OPC Amended Response to Staff Motion to Open Docket.

5. Public Counsel agrees with the Commission's March 28, 2012, Agenda Session decision not approve the process described in Staff's Motion and instead proceed with each company's request to reduce access rates individually as they are filed. Public Counsel now seeks clarification as to whether this matter is fully settled or whether the Commission would like an additional response from Public Counsel addressing the March 30 and April 2, 2012, filings of AT&T and MITG respectively. Public Counsel would be more than happy to respond should the Commission determine that such a filing would be helpful but will not expend its scarce resources preparing a response should the matter be fully settled.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully submits its Request for Clarification on whether the Commission would like an additional response from Public Counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

/s/ Christina L. Baker

By: _____

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 2nd day of April 2012:

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