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November 1, 1999

FILED³

NOV 01 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
301 West High Street, Suite 530
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: In the Matter of Proposed Rule, 4 CSR 240-2.080 Pleadings, Filings and
Service
Case No. AX-2000-116

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing are an original and fourteen (14) copies of Comments of
Sprint Missouri, Inc. and Sprint Communications Company L.P.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (913) 345-
7915.

Sincerely,

Linda K. Gardner
Linda K. Gardner *by Davis Bergmeyer*

LKG:ket
Enclosures
cc: All Parties

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI

In Re: Proposed Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080)
Pleadings, Filings and Service.) Case No. AX-2000-116

Missouri Public
Service Commission

COMMENTS OF SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.
AND SPRINT MISSOURI, INC.

Proposed rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(16) proposes to reduce the time allowed for responses to pleadings from 10 days to 7 days. This is entirely too short and will work an unnecessary hardship on all parties involved.¹ Proposed rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(18) permits the service of documents on parties through the simple mailing of the pleading to the last known address of the party's attorney. Based upon counsel's experience in Missouri and elsewhere, items mailed (even when mailed first class which is not specifically required under the rule) often take several days to reach its destination. It is not uncommon for a pleading to be received 5 days, or more, after mailing. In those instances, the current 10-day response time is often too short. It may simply be impossible if the time is further reduced to 7 days. Moreover, there does not appear to be a compelling reason to shorten the general time provided. If, in a given instance, time is of the essence, the Commission may order a shortened response time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sprint Communications Company L.P.
Sprint Missouri, Inc.

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¹One unintended consequence of such a proposal is the likely proliferation of requests for additional time in which to respond. Not only will this require the parties to file more such requests, the Regulatory Law Judges will likely find their workload increase as they deal with these additional requests.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY certify that copies of the foregoing document were served to the following by first class mail or hand-delivery on this 1st day of November, 1999:

Martha Hogerty
Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dan Joyce
General Counsel
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