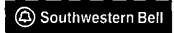


FILED

OCT 1 9 1998

Missouri Public Service Commission

Southwestern Bell Telephone One Bell Center, Room 3520 St. Louis, Missouri 63101 Phone 314 235-4300 Fax 314 247-0014



October 19, 1998

The Honorable Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission 301 West High Street, Floor 5A

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: Case No. TW-97-333

Dear Judge Roberts:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission in the above-referenced case are an original and 14 copies of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Response to STCG Motion for Stay.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the attention of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

Paul G. Lane /m

Paul G. Lane

Enclosure

cc: Attorneys of Record





OCT 1 9 1998

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

In the Matter of an Investigation into the Provision

of Community Optional Calling Service in Missouri.

Service Commission

Case No. TW-97-333

## SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO STCG MOTION FOR STAY

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, in response to the Small Telephone Company Group's (STCG) October 9, 1998 Motion to Stay the elimination of Community Optional Service (COS) in certain STCG exchanges, states:

- 1. STCG's Motion expresses concern that its customers in nine exchanges will lose COS when GTE Services Corporation (GTE) and Sprint Communications Company (Sprint) implement intraLATA presubscription. These nine exchanges (listed on Attachment A to STCG's Motion) are petitioning exchanges that target six GTE and three Sprint exchanges. When GTE and Sprint implement intraLATA presubscription in these target exchanges, COS will be eliminated at the same time. Southwestern Bell is the Primary Toll Carrier (PTC) in eight of these exchanges (excluding only the Myrtle-Thayer COS route in which GTE is the PTC).
- 2. Due to the Cole County Circuit Court's Order overturning the Commission's March 12, 1998 Order in Case No. TO-97-217/TO-97-220 and the Commission's order temporarily suspending further proceedings in that case, it does not appear that intraLATA presubscription will be available in these secondary carrier (SC) exchanges at the time COS is eliminated. While Southwestern Bell's alternative services including 1+ Saver plans will continue to be available, additional alternative services from 1+ intraLATA carriers will not. To

date, the secondary carriers for these exchanges have not been willing to offer their customers an alternative to replace COS.

3. In order to help mitigate the impact on these secondary carrier customers, Southwestern Bell would be willing, on a temporary basis, to offer a one-way flat rated calling plan to replace COS in secondary carrier exchanges where Southwestern Bell serves as the PTC. Upon notice from the Commission, Southwestern Bell would make a tariff filing for such a plan at compensatory rates to be implemented as soon as Southwestern Bell could accomplish the work necessary to provide the service. This service would, under the terms of the proposed tariff, expire at the earlier of the SC's implementation of intraLATA presubscription or July 1, 1999. Southwestern Bell believes this will give the secondary carriers ample time to develop an alternative to COS to meet their customers' calling needs.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I served this document on the parties listed below by first-class U.S. Mail postage prepaid, on October 19, 1998.

Paul G. Lane /TM

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