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May 19, 2000

FILED³
MAY 19 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: In the Matter of the Application of FairPoint Communications Corp. for a Certificate of Service Authority to provide Basic Local Telecommunications Service in portions of the State of Missouri and to classify said services and the company as competitive; Case No. TA-2000-514

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the original plus eight (8) copies of Motion for Continuance of Prehearing Conference for filing on behalf of FairPoint Communications Corp. in the above referenced matter. Please bring this matter to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel. A copy of this filing is being sent to all parties of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:



Sondra B. Morgan

SBM/k

Enclosures

cc: Office of Public Counsel
Nathan Williams - PSC
Mimi McDonald
Michael Kent

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED³
MAY 19 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of)
FairPoint Communications Corp. for)
a Certificate of Service Authority to)
provide Basic Local Telecommunications)
Service in portions of the State of Missouri)
and to classify said services and)
the company as competitive.)

Case No. TA-2000-514

MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Comes now FairPoint Communications Corp. ("FairPoint") and for its Motion for Continuance of Prehearing Conference states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

1. On February 22, 2000, FairPoint filed an application requesting a certificate of service authority to provide basic local telecommunications service in the State of Missouri.

2. On March 8, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company ("SWBT") filed an Application to Intervene, and on April 4, 2000, the Commission issued its Order Granting Intervention, Setting a Prehearing Conference and Directing Filing of Procedural Schedule in which it granted SWBT's Application to Intervene, set an early prehearing conference on May 22 and directed that the parties file a procedural schedule no later than May 30, 2000.

3. On March 2, 2000, FairPoint received a letter from the Telecommunications Department of the Commission stating that FairPoint's application did not meet certain financial tests. After discussions with Staff, FairPoint decided to post a surety bond as proof of financial ability in compliance with the Commission's new rule 4 CSR 240-32.110 effective April 30, 2000. FairPoint did, in fact, procure a bond, but before it could be filed with the Commission, the Commission moved to rescind its rule. FairPoint is now in the process of making necessary

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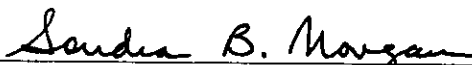
changes to the bond so that it is acceptable to the Commission Staff.

4. FairPoint's counsel has had discussions with counsel for the other parties to the case, and believes that as soon as the financial tests are resolved, the parties will be able to enter into a Stipulation and Agreement to resolve this case. Therefore, the parties do not believe there is any necessity to have a prehearing conference at this time and have no objections to this Motion.

FairPoint hopes to be able to file a Stipulation and Agreement by May 30, in lieu of a procedural schedule.

Wherefore, FairPoint respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Motion to Continue Prehearing Conference and for any other relief appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,


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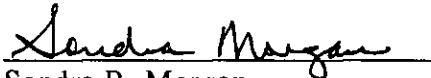
Certificate of Service

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered this 19th day of May, 2000, to:

Office of Public Counsel
Truman State Office Building
301 W. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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Public Service Commission
Truman State Office Building
301 W. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Mimi McDonald
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
One Bell Center, Room 3510
St. Louis, MO 63101


Sondra B. Morgan