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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Chariton)
Valley L.D. Corp. for a Certificate of Service)
Authority to Provide Intrastate, InterLATA and)
Interexchange Telecommunications Services to the)
Public Within the State of Missouri.)

CASE NO. TA-96-314

CONCURRING OPINION BY COMMISSIONER HAROLD CRUMPTON

I concur with the decision of the majority in this case. However, I have a concern. We should not tolerate a dual justice system in the Missouri regulatory environment. When the large local exchange companies (LEC) try to take advantage of the customer, this Commission is very vocal. Rightly so because the customer is using a monopoly provider and must be protected from predatory acts. This principle is just as true when the monopoly provider is a small telephone company. Our actions should be the same regardless of whether the monopoly provider is a large or a small LEC.

When the nation is moving toward a deregulated telecommunications market place, why doesn't the Missouri Public Service Commission do everything in its power to end pricing conduct of the past which may be predatory in the new environment? We should not permit there to be two kinds of regulatory justice. We have been told that the large LECs can do without the money that they lose on the PTC. Excuse me, it is the customers who are the ones paying the bill.

There is no such thing as a free lunch, even in the PTC plan of the Missouri Public Service Commission. This Commission

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should take the suggestion of Chariton L.D. and consider the effects of the PTC plan on intrastate long distance service in a separate PTC docket where the intrastate and interLATA effects can be determined.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold Crumpton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

HAROLD CRUMPTON
Commissioner

(S E A L)

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 20th day of May, 1996.