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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PREHEARING CONFERENCE

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December 27, 2000
Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 1

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In the Matter of the Application)
of ExOp of Missouri, Inc., for)
Designation as a)
Telecommunications Company) Case No. TA-2001-251
Carrier Eligible for Federal)
Universal Service Support)
Pursuant to Section 254 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

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BEFORE:

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KEVIN A. THOMPSON, Presiding,
DEPUTY CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

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REPORTED BY:

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APPEARANCES:

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FOR: BPS Telephone Company
Cass County Telephone Company
Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville,
Missouri
Ellington Telephone Company
Fidelity Telephone Company
Goodman Telephone Company, Inc.
Granby Telephone Company
Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation
Green Hills Telephone Corporation
Holway Telephone Company
Iamo Telephone Company
KLM Telephone Company
Kingdom Telephone Company
Le-Ru Telephone Company

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13 McDonald County Telephone Company
 14 Miller Telephone Company
 15 New London Telephone Company
 16 Orchard Farm Telephone Company
 17 Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
 18 Ozark Telephone Company
 19 Peace Valley Telephone Company
 20 Rock Port Telephone Company
 21 Seneca Telephone Company
 22 Spectra Communications Group, L. L. C.
 23 Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc.
 24 Stoutland Telephone Company.

19 PETER MIRAKIAN, III, Attorney at Law
 20 KRISTINE BECKER, Attorney at Law
 21 Spencer, Fane, Britt & Browne, L. L. P.
 22 1000 Walnut, Suite 1400
 23 Kansas City, Missouri 64106
 24 FOR: ExOp of Missouri, Inc.
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
 2 (Written Entries of Appearance filed.)
 3 JUDGE THOMPSON: We're here in the Matter of
 4 the Application of ExOp of Missouri, Incorporated, for
 5 Designation as a Telecommunications Company Carrier
 6 eligible for Federal Universal Service Support pursuant
 7 to Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
 8 Case No. TA-2001-251. My name is Kevin Thompson. I'm
 9 the Regulatory Law Judge assigned to preside over this
 10 matter.
 11 Let's take oral entries of appearance at this
 12 time.
 13 Mr. McCartney.
 14 MR. MCCARTNEY: Let the record reflect the
 15 appearance of Brian McCartney and Sondra Morgan on
 16 behalf of the Small Telephone Company Group. Our
 17 mailing address is Post Office Box 456, Jefferson City,
 18 Missouri 65102.
 19 JUDGE THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. McCartney.
 20 MR. MIRAKIAN: Pete Mirakian and Kristine
 21 Becker appearing on behalf of ExOp of Missouri, Inc.
 22 from the law firm of Spencer, Fane, Britt & Browne,
 23 L. L. P. in Kansas City. The address is 1000 Walnut,
 24 Suite 1400, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.
 25 JUDGE THOMPSON: Thank you.

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1 And where's staff; Mr. Poston, I believe?
 2 MS. BECKER: Yes.
 3 JUDGE THOMPSON: Okay. Well, we'll just
 4 continue without Mr. Poston. And I received a
 5 telephone call from Mr. Dandino of the Office of the
 6 Public Counsel this morning advising me that he is ill,
 7 and that he is in St. Louis, but that he has had
 8 conversations with Mr. Poston, who is also absent,
 9 regarding the development of the proposed procedural
 10 schedule. I hope he will include the rest of you in
 11 those conversations at some point.
 12 Do the parties have anything to bring to my
 13 attention at this time?
 14 (No response.)
 15 JUDGE THOMPSON: Okay. The purpose of this

16 early prehearing conference, as we call them, is so
17 that the parties can confer and jointly develop a
18 proposed procedural schedule. It's due, I think,
19 January 3rd in this case, and that should have dates
20 for the filing of direct testimony, rebuttal testimony,
21 surrebuttal testimony, an issues list, position
22 statements of the parties.

23 This is all set out in the -- in the order.
24 I'm just reviewing it for those of you who I don't see
25 so frequently, and, of course, for a hearing. In order

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1 to determine available dates for the evidentiary
2 hearing, there is a calendar up in the -- on the
3 9th floor, which you can go up and take a look at.

4 Well, that's all that I have, so we will
5 adjourn the recorded portion of the prehearing
6 conference at this time.

7 WHEREUPON, the on-the-record portion of the
8 prehearing conference was concluded.
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