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June 27, 2000

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DALE HARDY ROBERTS  
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DANA K. JOYCE  
General Counsel

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

RE: Case No. TE-2000-648

FILED<sup>2</sup>  
JUN 27 2000

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of a **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce H. Bates  
Assistant General Counsel  
(573) 751-7434  
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

BB/df  
Enclosure  
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED<sup>2</sup>

JUN 27 2000

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

In the Matter of Confidential Treatment )  
of the Annual Report of Missouri )  
Telecom, Inc. )

Case No. TE-2000-648

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its *Recommendation* respectfully states:

1. On April 14, 2000, Missouri Telecom, Inc. ("Missouri Telecom") filed a *Motion for Confidential Treatment* with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") requesting confidential treatment of the balance sheet, income statement, and a portion of page 3 contained in Missouri Telecom's 1999 Annual Report to the Commission.

2. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-10.080(7), the Commission may grant confidential treatment of information in an annual report for good cause.

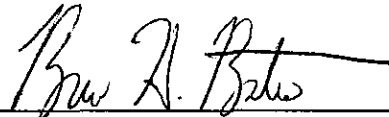
3. In the attached *Memorandum*, which is labeled Appendix A, the Staff states its opinion that Missouri Telecom has stated good cause for confidential treatment of the subject information.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends, *inter alia*, that the Commission issue an Order granting Missouri Telecom's request for confidential treatment that portion of its 1999 annual report referenced in the *Memorandum* until April 15, 2001, and requiring that Missouri Telecom file the confidential version thereof in accordance with the specifications set forth in the attached

*Memorandum.* Staff further recommends that the Commission issue an Order transferring the information in question to the public record after that date, absent a showing by Missouri Telecom that the information should remain confidential.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE  
General Counsel

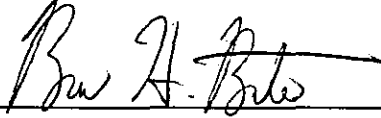
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bates", is written over a horizontal line.

Bruce H. Bates  
Assistant General Counsel  
Missouri Bar No. 35442

Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
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### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 27th day of June, 2000.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File  
Case No. TE-2000-648, Missouri Telecom, Inc.

FROM: Bill Meyer, Project Coordinator *WBM 6/27/2000*  
Roy Boltz, Regulatory Auditor *RB 6/22/2000*

*William Meyer 6/27/2000*  
Project Coordinator/Date

*Man Porter 6/27/00 BWP 6-27-00*  
General Counsel's Office/Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation Concerning the Request for Confidential Treatment of portions of  
the 1999 Annual Report of Missouri Telecom, Inc.

DATE: June 21, 2000

On April 14, 2000, Missouri Telecom, Inc. (Missouri Telecom), an alternative basis local exchange carrier, filed with the Commission an Application for Confidential Treatment of Annual Report, wherein Missouri Telecom requested that the Commission afford confidential treatment of a portion of page 3, balance sheet and income statement (respectively, pages 3, 5 and 6 of the annual report). In support of its Application, Missouri Telecom asserted that the information for which protection is sought contains market sensitive company-specific financial and corporate organizational information that is not otherwise publicly available, and the public disclosure of that information could be injurious to the business and competitive position of Missouri Telecom. The information could be used by competitors of Missouri Telecom to determine the extent of Missouri Telecom's business operations and other information that is of a competitively sensitive nature. Disclosure of this type of information to the competitors of Missouri Telecom would be detrimental to Missouri Telecom's business interests in Missouri.

The Staff has reviewed these pages and is of the opinion that this information meets the definition of highly confidential or proprietary, as defined by the protective order issued by the Commission in contested cases, and that, therefore, good cause has been shown based on past Commission practice.

The Staff will note that Missouri Telecom filed a confidential version of the 1999 annual report but did not file a public version of the 1999 annual report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Staff recommends that the Commission issue an Order granting Missouri Telecom, Inc.'s request for confidential treatment of a portion of page 3, balance sheet and income statement contained in its 1999 annual report until April 15, 2001. After this date, the information should be transferred to the public record, unless the Company makes a showing that the information remains confidential.
2. The Staff recommends the Commission order Missouri Telecom, Inc. to file a public version of the annual report with a copy of the Order attached to the public version. The redacted public version should have asterisks appearing in the spaces on the affected pages, along with a notation at the bottom of each stating, "denotes highly confidential material that has been filed under seal."

RECEIVED  
JUN 27 2000

COMMISSION COUNSEL  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

APPENDIX A

Service List for  
Case No. TE-2000-648  
June 27, 2000

Office of the Public Counsel  
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