

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)
 ConnectSouth Communications of)
 Missouri, Inc. for a Certificate of)
 Service Authority to Provide Basic)
 Local Telecommunications Service,)
 Local Exchange Telecommunications)
 Service, and Interexchange)
 Telecommunications Services in the)
 State of Missouri and to Classify)
 Said Services and the Company as)
 Competitive)

Case No. TA-2000-585

ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION AND

DIRECTING FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

ConnectSouth Communications of Missouri, Inc. (ConnectSouth) filed an application on March 21, 2000, for a certificate of service authority to provide basic local, local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services in portions of the state of Missouri and to classify said services and company as competitive. ConnectSouth wishes to provide basic local, local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services in all the exchanges currently served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT), Sprint Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Sprint and GTE Midwest Incorporated.

On March 28, 2000, the Commission issued a notice directing interested parties to file applications to intervene no later than April 27, 2000. SWBT filed an application to intervene on April 10, 2000. SWBT stated that it has an interest in the Commission's decision because it provides basic local exchange services and will be

in direct competition with ConnectSouth if the certificate is granted. SWBT argued that no other party will adequately protect its interests in this matter and that its intervention would be in the public interest because of SWBT's expertise and experience in the telecommunications industry.

The Commission has reviewed SWBT's application to intervene. The Commission finds that SWBT is in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding intervention and that SWBT has an interest in this matter which is different from that of the general public. 4 CSR 240-2.075. The Commission concludes that SWBT's request for intervention should be granted and that the parties should file a proposed procedural schedule. The procedural schedule shall include dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing. If no party requests a hearing, the Commission may grant the service authority and competitive classification requested without a hearing. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).


IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's application for intervention filed on April 10, 2000 in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4) is granted.

2. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than 3 p.m. on June 30, 2000. The procedural schedule shall include dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing.

3. That this order shall become effective on June 12, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Shelly A. Register, Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of
authority pursuant to 4 CSR
240-2.120(1), (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of May, 2000.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION