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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Access Rates to be Charged     )  
by Competitive Local Exchange Telecommunications    ) Case No. TO-99-596  
Companies in the State of Missouri.                     )

**ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION,**  
**SETTING A PREHEARING CONFERENCE**  
**AND DIRECTING FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

On June 15, 1999, the Commission issued its Order Establishing Case and Directing Notice, in order to investigate certain language appearing as a matter of standard practice in Stipulations and Agreements used with competitive local exchange telecommunications companies (CLECs). Therein, the Commission directed that interested parties would have 20 days within which to seek to intervene. By notice issued on June 16, 1999, the Commission clarified its previous order and set July 6, 1999, as the deadline for intervention.

Timely applications to intervene were filed by The Mid Missouri Group, on June 28, 1999, consisting of eight local exchange telecommunications companies: Alma Telephone Company, Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company, Modern Telecommunications Company, MoKan Dial, Inc., Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company, and Peace Valley Telephone Company; by Gabriel Communications of Missouri, Inc., on June 28, 1999; by Sprint Missouri, Inc., and Sprint Communications Company, L.P., on June 29, 1999; by AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc., on July 1, 1999; by

GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Communications Corporation on July 1, 1999; by ALLTEL Communications, Inc., on July 1, 1999; by Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company, Inc., doing business as Green Hills Telecommunications Services, on July 1, 1999; by Mark Twain Communications Company on July 1, 1999; by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company on July 2, 1999; by Intermedia Communications, Inc., on July 6, 1999; by WinStar Wireless, Inc., on July 6, 1999; and by MCImetro Access Transmission Services, L.L.C., on July 6, 1999. Untimely applications to intervene were filed by ExOp of Missouri, Inc., on July 8, 1999; by Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc., on July 8, 1999; by McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., on July 12, 1999; by Digital Teleport, Inc., on July 13, 1999; and by e. spire Communications, Inc., on July 13, 1999.

The Commission finds that the public interest requires the widest possible participation in this matter and that telecommunications carriers, likely to be affected by the outcome, should have a full opportunity to participate. Therefore, the Commission will permit the untimely applicants to seek leave to intervene beyond the intervention deadline of July 6, 1999.

Each of the intervention applicants states that it is either an incumbent local exchange company (ILEC) or a competitive local exchange company (CLEC) and that it is likely to be affected by the outcome of this matter. Each of the intervention applicants states that its interest herein is different from that of the general public and that its interest cannot be represented adequately by any other party to this proceeding.

The Commission has reviewed the applications to intervene and finds that they are in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding intervention and that each of the intervention applicants has an interest in this matter different from that of the general public. The Commission will grant the requests for intervention.

An early prehearing conference will be scheduled to afford the parties the opportunity to discuss, define, and possibly resolve the issues presented in this case and to discuss a procedural schedule. The Commission will also set a date for the filing of a proposed schedule in order to ensure that this case progresses in a timely fashion.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That The Mid Missouri Group, consisting of the following eight local exchange telecommunications companies: Alma Telephone Company, Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, Choctaw Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company, Modern Telecommunications Company, MoKan Dial, Inc., Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company, and Peace Valley Telephone Company; Gabriel Communications of Missouri, Inc.; Sprint Missouri, Inc., and Sprint Communications Company, L.P.; AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc.; GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Communications Corporation; ALLTEL Communications, Inc.; Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company, Inc., doing business as Green Hills Telecommunications Services; Mark Twain Communications Company; Southwestern Bell Telephone Company; Intermedia Communications, Inc.; WinStar Wireless, Inc.; MCImetro Access Transmission Services, L.L.C.; ExOp of Missouri, Inc.; Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc.; McLeodUSA

Telecommunications Services, Inc.; Digital Teleport, Inc.; and e. spire Communications, Inc., are granted intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4).


2. That a prehearing conference shall be held on August 13, 1999, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The prehearing conference shall be held at the Commission's office on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone wishing to attend who has special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days before the prehearing conference at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

3. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than August 21, 1999. The procedural schedule shall include dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing.

4. That this order shall become effective on August 5, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

( S E A L )



Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Kevin A. Thompson, Deputy Chief  
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 29th day of July, 1999.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION