STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY June 6, 2000

CASE NO: TA-2000-623

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

Dale Hardy/Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Everest)
Connections Corporation for a Certificate of)
of Service Authority to Provide Intrastate)
Interexchange and Nonswitched Local Exchange)
Telecommunications Services within the State)
of Missouri and for Competitive)
Classification.

Case No. TA-2000-623 Tariff No. 200000908

ORDER APPROVING INTEREXCHANGE AND NONSWITCHED LOCAL EXCHANGE CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE AUTHORITY AND ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

Everest Connections Corporation (Everest) applied to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) on April 5, 2000, for certificates of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange and nonswitched local exchange telecommunications services in Missouri under Section 392.410-.450, RSMo 1994, and RSMo Supp. 1999. Everest asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by Sections 392.361 and 392.420. Everest is a Delaware corporation with its principal office located at 5555 WingHaven Blvd., O'Fallon, Missouri 63366.

The Commission issued a Notice of Applications for Intrastate Certificates of Service Authority and Opportunity to Intervene on April 18, 2000, directing parties wishing to intervene to file their requests by May 3, 2000. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for hearing has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence. State ex rel.

¹ All further statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri 1994 unless otherwise indicated.

Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989). Since no one has asked permission to intervene or requested a hearing, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the application.

Everest filed a motion to amend its application by interlineation on May 11, 2000, to update its requested waivers to take into account recent revisions by the Commission. There were no objections filed to the motion and this order will address the request for waivers based on recent revisions. Everest filed a proposed tariff in conjunction with its application and filed substitute sheets on May 11, 23 and 26, 2000. The tariff's effective date is June 14, 2000. Everest's tariff describes the rates, rules, and regulations it intends to use, identifies Everest as a competitive company, and lists the waivers requested (as updated). Everest intends to provide interexchange and nonswitched local exchange telecommunications services including 1+, 800/888/877, Directory Assistance, Operator Services, Private Line and Travel Card services.

In its memorandum filed on June 5, 2000, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) stated that Everest's proposed services are similar to existing IXC offerings. Staff recommended that the Commission grant Everest a certificate of interexchange service authority, and a certificate of service authority for local exchange telecommunication services on condition that this authority be restricted to providing dedicated, nonswitched local exchange private line services. Staff recommended that the Commission grant Everest competitive status, and waiver of the statutes and rules listed in the Notice. Staff

recommended that the Commission approve the proposed tariff as amended to become effective on June 14, 2000.

The Commission finds that competition in the intrastate interexchange and nonswitched local exchange telecommunications markets is in the public interest and Everest should be granted certificates of service authority. The Commission finds that the services Everest proposes to offer are competitive and Everest should be classified as a competitive company. The Commission finds that waiving the statutes and Commission rules set out in the ordered paragraph below is reasonable and not detrimental to the public interest.

The Commission finds that Everest's proposed tariff details the services, equipment, and pricing it proposes to offer, and is similar to tariffs approved for other Missouri certificated interexchange and nonswitched local exchange carriers. The Commission finds that the proposed tariff filed on April 5, 2000, shall be approved as amended to become effective on June 14, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That Everest Connections Corporation is granted a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in the state of Missouri, subject to the conditions of certification set out above.
- 2. That Everest Connections Corporation is granted a certificate of service authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the state of Missouri limited to providing dedicated, nonswitched local exchange private line services,

subject to all applicable statutes and Commission rules except as specified in this order.

3. That Everest Connections Corporation is classified as a competitive telecommunications company. Application of the following statutes and regulatory rules shall be waived:

Statutes

392.210.2 - uniform system of accounts
392.240.1 - rates-rentals-service & physical connections
392.270 - valuation of property (ratemaking)
392.280 - depreciation accounts
392.290 - issuance of securities
392.300.2 - acquisition of stock
392.310 - stock and debt issuance
392.320 - stock dividend payment
392.340 - reorganization(s)
392.330, RSMo Supp. 1999 - issuance of securities,
debts and notes

Commission Rules

- 4 CSR 240-10.020 depreciation fund income
 4 CSR 240-30.010(2)(C) posting of tariffs
 4 CSR 240-30.040 uniform system of accounts
 4 CSR 240-33.030 minimum charges
 4 CSR 240-35 reporting of bypass and customer-specific arrangements
- 4. That the tariff filed by Everest Connections Corporation on April 5, 2000, under tariff number 200000908, is approved as amended to become effective on June 14, 2000. The tariff approved is:

Missouri P.S.C. Tariff No. 1 Original Page No. 1 to Original Page No. 37

5. That this order shall become effective on June 14, 2000.

6. That this case may be closed on June 15, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts

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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Keith Thornburg, 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 6th day of June, 2000.

STATE OF MISSOURI OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 6^{th} day of June 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge