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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 4th
day of January, 2000.

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern)
Bell Telephone Company to Provide Notice of)
Intent to File an Application for Authorization) Case No. TO-99-227
to Provide In-region InterLATA Services Originat-)
ing in Missouri Pursuant to Section 271 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO HIRE OUTSIDE CONSULTANT

On June 22, 1999, the Commission ordered the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) to submit a report recommending performance measures to be used in evaluating Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's (SWBT) compliance with the 14-point checklist found at Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act. A report was filed on July 23, 1999, and throughout August comments were received from the parties.

The Commission has determined that it will be necessary to have an outside consultant perform an evaluation and independent verification of the data submitted by SWBT to determine the degree of compliance with performance measures to be decided by the Commission. Therefore, the Commission will order the Staff to prepare a request for proposal (RFP), and the Staff shall proceed with the RFP process through the state of Missouri's Office of Administration. After proposals are received, the

Staff shall present its selection of consultant to the Commission for its approval.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall proceed with the bid process through the state of Missouri's Office of Administration.

2. That after receiving proposals, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall present its selection to the Commission for approval.

3. That this order shall become effective on January 14, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Drainer,
and Schemenauer, CC., concur.
Murray, C., dissents.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge

COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

JAN 04 2003

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