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March 2, 2001

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

RE: Case No. TA-2001-251

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of a **PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND LIST OF ISSUES**.

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,

Marc D. Poston
Senior Counsel
(573) 751-8701
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MDP:sw
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

MAR - 2 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of ExOp)
of Missouri, Inc., for Designation as a)
Telecommunications Carrier Eligible for)
Federal Universal Service Support)
Pursuant to Section 254 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

Case No. TA-2001-251

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND LIST OF ISSUES

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its Proposed Procedural Schedule and List of Issues states as follows:

1. On February 8, 2001, the Commission ordered the parties to file a proposed procedural schedule on or before March 7, 2001 in its *Order Directing Filing*. On February 20, 2001, the parties met on a conference call and attempted to settle the unresolved issues in this matter. The parties were unable to resolve all issues and ultimately agreed upon the following proposed procedural schedule and list of issues.

2. The parties believe that the issues are legal issues, which can be presented to the Commission through briefs, and that an evidentiary hearing is not necessary. The procedural schedule agreed upon by the parties is as follows:

Stipulation of Facts, List of Issues, and
Proposed Procedural Schedule

March 2, 2001

Initial Briefs

March 23, 2001

Reply Briefs

April 6, 2001

3. The parties will file the Stipulation of Facts in a separate pleading.

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4. The parties to this case present the following issues to the Commission:

1. Has ExOp sufficiently identified and defined the geographic area for which it seeks eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") status in its Application? What is the company's service area for purposes of this designation?

2. Must ExOp provide all of the services required by Section 254(c) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act") throughout each exchange in its service area and advertise the availability of those services using media of general distribution throughout each exchange in its service area before the Commission can determine that ExOp is an eligible telecommunications carrier for purposes of receiving Federal Universal Service support for all of its certificated area, or can the Commission grant ETC designation to ExOp for all of its certificated area prior to its actual provisioning and advertising of services throughout each exchange in its certificated area?

WHEREFORE, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, on behalf of the parties to this proceeding, respectfully requests that the Commission adopt the proposals contained herein.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel



Marc Poston
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 45722

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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 2nd day of March 2001.



Service List for
Case No. TA-2001-251
Revised: March 2, 2001 (SW)

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