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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 6th  
day of July, 1999.

In the Matter of L.D. Services, Inc., Name Change ) Case No. TO-99-460  
to CEO Telecommunications Communications, Inc. ) Tariff File 9900786

**ORDER DIRECTING MERGER APPLICATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION**

On April 8, 1999, CEO Telecommunications, Inc. ("CEO"), filed a letter regarding "changing a name on a tariff currently on file with [the] Missouri Public Service Commission" referencing the tariff filed for L.D. Services, Inc. (originally effective June 5, 1995). The attachments to the letter included a "First Revised Title Page" for the tariff file; an Adoption Notice; and an Amended Certificate of Authority issued by the Missouri Secretary of State (with application form for an Amended Certificate of Authority attached).

The Adoption Notice states: "Effective September 25, 1998, L.D. Services, Inc. merged with CEO Telecommunications, Inc. and assumed the name CEO Telecommunications, Inc." Mergers or sales undertaken without the Commission's prior approval and order are invalid under Section 392.300, RSMo. The Commission has no record of a merger involving L.D. Services, Inc.

On May 10, 1999, the Commission issued an Order Suspending Tariff Filing for Change of Name and Directing Staff Inquiry. The Commission's staff was ordered to investigate this matter to determine whether an

unapproved merger or sale occurred and was directed to report its findings and recommendation to the Commission. On June 24, 1999, the staff filed its response to the Commission's order and recommended that L.D. Services, Inc., be ordered to file a merger application pursuant to Section 392.300, RSMo. Based on the record at this time, L.D. Services appears to have merged without the Commission's approval, in violation of state laws applicable to public utilities.

The failure to comply with applicable provisions of law or with Commission orders and decisions places a regulated public utility's authority to conduct business in jeopardy and may subject officers, agents and employees of a public utility to criminal penalties. It is possible that the noted deficiencies presented by L.D. Services, Inc., are born out of ignorance. However, it is more likely that L.D. Services, Inc., has simply failed to retain legal counsel to obtain competent advice and representation necessary to conduct its business affairs in a valid and legal fashion in Missouri. At this point, representation by an attorney authorized to practice before the Commission will be necessary in order for L.D. Services, Inc., to proceed to resolve this matter without creating further hazard and expense.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

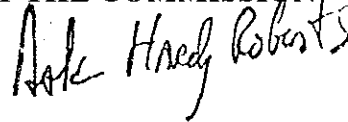
1. That L.D. Services, Inc., shall, through legal counsel authorized to practice in Missouri before the Missouri Public Service Commission, file its application for an order approving its merger. Or, in the alternative, that L.D. Services, Inc., shall file an appropriate

pleading stating its position before the Commission as to whether an unauthorized merger has occurred.

2. That L.D. Services, Inc., shall file its application or response to this Order by July 28, 1999.

3. That this order shall become effective on July 16, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

( S E A L )

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

Thornburg, Regulatory Law Judge

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COMMISSION COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION