LAW OFFICES

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

312 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE P.O. BOX 456

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0456 TELEPHONE (573) 635-7166 FACSIMILE (573) 635-0427 DEAN L. COOPER
MARK G. ANDERSON
GREGORY C. MITCHELL
BRIAN T. MCCARTNEY
BRIAN K. BOGARD
DIANA C. FARR
JANET E. WHEELER

OF COUNSEL RICHARD T. CIOTTONE

August 26, 2002

Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re: Case No. TC-2002-1077

- Direct Testimony of Renee Reeter
- Green Hills Telephone Corporation

FILED²

Service Commission

Dear Mr. Roberts:

DAVID V.G. BRYDON

GARY WI DUFFY

PAUL A. BOUDREAU

SONDRA B. MORGAN

CHARLES E. SMARR

JAMES C. SWEARENGEN

WILLIAM R. ENGLAND, III

JOHNNY K. RICHARDSON

Enclosed for filing please find an original and eight copies of the direct testimony of Renee Reeter on behalf of Green Hills Telephone Corporation.

Please note that Schedule No. Ihas been designated "highly confidential" because it contains information relating directly to specific customers and market specific information relating to services offered in competition with others. Accordingly, it is being provided in a separate envelope.

Please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel. If there are any questions regarding this filing, please give me a call. I thank you in advance for your attention to and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

W.R. England, III

WRE/da Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

Exhibit No.:

Issue:

Terminating Wireless Traffic

Witness:

Renee' Reeter

Type of Exhibit:

Direct Testimony

Sponsoring Party:

Green Hills Telephone Corporation

Case No.:

TC-2002-1077

Date:

August 26, 2002

CASE NO. TC-2002-1077

DIRECT TESTIMONY

FILED²
AUG 2 6 2002

OF

RENEE' REETER

Service Commission

ON

BEHALF OF

GREEN HILLS TELEPHONE CORPORATION

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

BPS Telephone Company, et al.,	
Petitioners,	
v .) Case No. TC-2002-1077
VoiceStream Wireless Corporation, et al.,	
Respondents.)
County of CALDWELL) State of MISSOURI)	
AFFIDAVIT	OF
Renee' Reeter	r
I, Renee' Reeter, being first duly sworn, deposes and s accompanying testimony entitled "Direct Testimony of Renee' thereto was prepared by him/her and/or under his/her direction facts in said testimony and schedules, he/she would respond as schedules are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge,	Reeter"; that said testimony and schedules attached and supervision; that if inquiries were made as to the therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony and
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of August, 20	002.
<u>i Sk</u>	Ana S. Mc (austin) Notary Public
My Commission expires:	•
March 11, 2005	SIDNA S. MCCAUSLIN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Livingston County y Commission Expires Mar 11, 2005

DIRECT TESTIMONY

1	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
2	A.	Renee' Reeter, 7926 NE State Route M, Breckenridge, MO 64625.
3	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
4	A.	Green Hills Telephone Corporation as Controller.
5	Q.	Briefly describe the nature of your duties and responsibilities for Green Hills Telephone
6		Corporation.
7	A.	I am the Manager in charge of the Accounting Staff and Business Office and Regulatory
8		issues.
9	Q.	Are you authorized to testify on behalf of Green Hills Telephone Corporation?
10	A.	Yes.
11	Q.	Please briefly describe your education and work background.
12	A.	I have a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration with a Major in Accounting. I
13		worked as Controller for a wholesale food distributor for ten years prior to Green Hills
14		Telephone Corporation where I have been the Controller for three years come October,
15		2002. Previous to that I worked for an accounting firm.
16	Q.	Please briefly describe Green Hills Telephone Corporation and the nature of its
17		business.
18	A.	Green Hills Telephone Corporation (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the
19		"Company") is a Missouri corporation with its principal office and place of business
20		located at Breckenridge, Missouri. A certificate of corporate good standing, issued by
21		the Missouri Secretary of State, is attached to the Complaint filed in Case No. TC-2002-
22		1077. Green Hills Telephone Corporation provides telephone service to approximately
23		3,950 subscribers that are located within the following Missouri exchanges: Cowgill,
24		Knoxville, Polo, Stet, Tina, Avalon, Breckenridge, Wheeling, Bogard, Ludlow, Dawn,
25		Mooresville and Lock Springs. The Company operates pursuant to a certificate of public

- convenience and necessity issued by the Commission in its Case No. TA-88-47. Of
 particular relevance to the instant complaint, Green Hills Telephone Company provides
 basic local telecommunications services, exchange access services and wireless
 termination services pursuant to tariffs on file with and approved by the Missouri Public
 Service Commission (Commission) within its exchanges.
- 6 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 7 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support our Company's complaint against
 8 VoiceStream Wireless Corporation (VoiceStream), Western Wireless Corporation
 9 (Western) and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) for their failure to pay
 10 terminating compensation on wireless originated traffic, which they are responsible for
 11 causing to terminate in the exchanges served by our Company.
- Q. Are there any pending actions or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions issued against your Company from any state or federal agency or Court within three years of the date of the filing of the instant Complaint which involved customer service or rates?
- 15 A. No.
- Q. Are either your Company's annual report to the Commission or its assessment fee overdue?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Please state your understanding of the nature of Respondents', VoiceStream and 20 Western, business.
- A. It is my understanding that VoiceStream and Western are providers of commercial
 mobile radio service (CMRS) (also known as wireless service) within the State of
 Missouri. It is also my understanding that wireless customers of VoiceStream and
 Western originate wireless calls, which are ultimately terminated to wireline customers
 which are located in exchanges which our Company serves.
- Q. What is your understanding of the nature of SWBT's business?
- 27 A. It is my understanding that SWBT is a telecommunications company providing basic

local telecommunications services, basic interexchange telecommunications services and exchange access services in various parts of the state of Missouri. In addition, SWBT offers what it calls a "transit" service to CMRS providers, such as VoiceStream and Western, which allow those CMRS providers to terminate wireless-originated traffic to exchanges served by our Company without directly connecting to our Company's local network. It is also my understanding that SWBT provides these transit services or facilities pursuant to either its intrastate wireless interconnection tariff or an interconnection agreement entered into between SWBT and CMRS providers such as VoiceStream and Western.

Q. How does wireless-originated traffic terminate to your Company's exchanges?

- A. The wireless originated traffic is terminated to our exchanges over common trunk groups owned by SWBT, which directly connect to the Company's facilities. SWBT commingles this wireless originated traffic with other wireline interexchange (i.e., toll) traffic also destined for termination to the Company's exchanges. Because all of this traffic comes to us over a common trunk group, our Company is unable to distinguish the wireless-originated traffic from other interexchange traffic that is terminated to us. We are also unable to unilaterally prevent or block wireless-originated traffic from terminating to our facilities even in those circumstances where wireless carriers refuse or otherwise fail to pay for the terminating service which our Company provides.
- Q. Please describe the terminating services which your Company provides.
- A. After the traffic is delivered by SWBT to our facilities, it is transported over wire/cable facilities, which we own, to our central office where the traffic is switched and directed to the individual customers to whom the traffic is destined. In addition to the switch, we own distribution facilities which carry the calls throughout our exchanges where it is ultimately terminated over the cable pair or loop which serves each individual customer's residence or place of business.
- Q. How are you compensated for wireless-originated traffic which terminates to your

exchanges?

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- A. On February 19, 2001, the Missouri Commission approved, in its Case No. TT-2001-139
 et al., a "wireless termination service tariff" which contains rates, terms and conditions
 for the termination of intraMTA wireless-originated traffic delivered to our Company via
 the transit services or facilities of an intermediate LEC such as SWBT. That tariff is
 currently on file with and approved by the Commission and applies in the absence of an
 agreement negotiated pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- Q. Does VoiceStream or Western have an agreement with your Company to terminate or
 otherwise exchange intraMTA traffic?
- 10 A. No.

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- 11 Q. Are there other tariffs which may apply to this wireless-originated traffic?
- 12 A. Yes. To the extent that VoiceStream and Western terminate interMTA wireless traffic to
 13 our Company, our intrastate access tariff would apply. Again, the rates, terms and
 14 conditions of our access service are contained in tariffs, which are on file with and
 15 approved by the Commission.
- 16 Q. How do you know that VoiceStream and Western have terminated wireless-originated 17 traffic to your exchanges?
 - A. Each month we receive from SWBT a cellular transiting usage summary report (CTUSR), which identifies, by carrier, the CMRS providers who have transited wireless originated traffic over SWBT's facilities for termination to our exchanges. The CTUSRs we have received from SWBT since February 19, 2001 (when our wireless service tariff became effective) indicate that VoiceStream and Western have terminated traffic to our Company. The specific amounts of traffic are shown on the copies of CTUSRs which are attached to this testimony as Schedule No. 1. These CTUSRs are for the period of time February 5, 2001 through June 4, 2002, which is the most recent period for which SWBT has hard copies of this information.
 - Q. Do the CTUSRs you receive from SWBT distinguish between interMTA and intraMTA

- 1 wireless originated traffic?
- A. No. The CTUSRs we receive from SWBT just tells us, in total, for each month, the
- 3 amount of traffic a particular CMRS provider has terminated to our exchanges. These
- 4 reports do not distinguish between inter- and intraMTA traffic.
- 5 Q. Have VoiceStream and Western paid you for any of the traffic terminated to your
- 6 Company's exchanges?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Have you sent bills to VoiceStream and Western Wireless for this traffic?
- 9 A. Yes, we have sent bills to VoiceStream and Western Wireless for this traffic. For
- purposes of those billings we have assumed that all traffic is intraMTA and applied our
- 11 wireless termination service tariff rate. If it could be determined that some of this traffic
- is interMTA, we believe it would be appropriate to charge for this interMTA traffic based
- on our intrastate access rates.
- 14 Q. What is the status of VoiceStream's and Western's payments with respect to your
- Company?
- 16 A. As of the date of the filing of the Complaint, VoiceStream and Western have outstanding
- and unpaid amounts as shown on Exhibits 15(HC) and 16(HC) attached thereto. These
- amounts remain outstanding and unpaid and will increase as wireless traffic continues to
- be terminated to our Company.
- 20 Q. Are other wireless carriers paying you for traffic they terminate to your Company?
- 21 A. Yes. Most, if not all, of the major wireless carriers that terminate traffic to us, as shown
- 22 by the CTUSRs, are paying for that traffic pursuant to our wireless termination service
- tariff. VoiceStream and Western are the only major wireless carriers that I am aware of
- that are not paying our wireless termination tariff rate for traffic they terminate to us.
- 25 Q. Prior to filing this complaint, did you attempt to resolve this dispute with Western?
- 26 A. Yes. Our counsel contacted representatives for VoiceStream and Western on several
- occasions in an attempt to resolve this matter short of filing a complaint case. However,

- those efforts were unsuccessful and, as a result, we were forced to file this Complaint.
- Q. Do any of the amounts due and owing from VoiceStream and Western Wireless include any late payment or other charges?

- A. No. Although our tariff permits the imposition of late fees and the recovery of reasonable attorneys fees in the event of nonpayment, I have not included those charges in the amounts due and owing. As part of this Complaint, we are asking the Commission to reaffirm the provisions of our tariff that would allow us to assess late payment fees on these amounts as well as seek recovery of reasonable attorneys fees, which we have incurred in pursuing these unpaid amounts.
- Q. You have also filed a complaint against SWBT. Why are you including SWBT in this Complaint?
 - A. SWBT is included in this Complaint because we believe they have some responsibility for this traffic being terminated to us and for VoiceStream's and Western's failure to pay. When the Commission approved SWBT's revision to its own wireless interconnection tariff in Case No. TT-97-524, it did so with the specific condition that SWBT would remain secondarily liable to third party LECs for traffic sent to them by wireless carriers and for which they receive no payment. The specific language in the Commission's order is as follows:

In the event a wireless carrier refuses to pay a third-party LEC for such termination and the wireless carrier does not have a reciprocal compensation agreement with the third-party LEC, SWBT will remain secondarily liable to the third-party LEC for the termination of this traffic, but will be entitled to indemnification from the wireless carrier upon payment of the loss. *In the matter of SWBT's tariff filing to revise its wireless carrier Interconnection Service Tariff,* PSC Mo. No. 40, Case No. TT-97-524, Report & Order, December 23, 1997.

It is also our understanding that in SWBT's interconnection agreements with CMRS providers, including the interconnection agreement with VoiceStream and Western, there is a provision, which requires CMRS providers to enter into their own agreements with

third party providers, such as our Company, for traffic which they send through SWBT's facilities for termination to that third party provider. In the event, however, that the CMRS provider sends traffic through SWBT's transiting network to a third party provider with whom the CMRS carrier does not have a traffic interexchange agreement, then the CMRS provider has agreed to indemnify SWBT for any termination charges rendered by a third party provider for such traffic. Accordingly, in this case where VoiceStream and Western have knowingly sent traffic to our Company and have failed to establish an agreement or pay for traffic they terminate to our Company pursuant to our approved tariffs, we believe that it is appropriate to hold SWBT responsible for payment of such terminating charges since 1) SWBT is responsible for the traffic being terminated to us in contravention of its tariff or interconnection agreement with VoiceStream and Western and 2) SWBT has a right of indemnification from VoiceStream and Western so that SWBT would be reimbursed for any charges it is required to pay to us.

- 14 Q. Does that complete your direct testimony?
- 15 A. Yes, it does.

CASE NO. TC-2002-1077

Schedule No. 1

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

Direct Testimony of Renee Reeter on behalf of Green Hills Telephone Corporation

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