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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Choctaw )  
Communications, L.C. d/b/a Smoke Signal Communi- )  
cations for a Certificate of Service Authority to ) Case No. TA-98-561  
Provide Basic Local Telecommunications Service in )  
the State of Missouri and to Classify Said )  
Services and the Company as Competitive. )  
)

**ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION AND DIRECTING FILING**  
**OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Choctaw Communications, L.C. d/b/a Smoke Signal Communications (Choctaw) filed an application on June 18, 1998, for a certificate of service authority to provide basic local telecommunications service in the State of Missouri under 4 CSR 240-2.060(4). Choctaw wishes to provide resold services in all the exchanges currently served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT). The Commission issued a Notice of Applications and Opportunity to Intervene on June 23, directing interested parties to file applications to intervene no later than July 23. Choctaw also filed a proposed tariff with its application, carrying an effective date of August 14, which reflected the rules, rates, and regulations under which it proposed to offer services in Missouri. On July 29, Choctaw requested the effective date of its tariff be extended to September 30.

On July 10, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed a timely application to intervene. SWBT stated it has a direct interest in the Commission's decision in this case because it provides basic local exchange services and will be in direct competition with this company if

the certificate is granted. SWBT argues that no other party will adequately protect its interests in this matter and that its intervention would be in the public interest because of SWBT's expertise in the telecommunications industry.

The Commission has reviewed SWBT's application and finds that it is in substantial compliance with Commission rules regarding intervention and that the applicant has an interest in this matter which is different from that of the general public. The Commission concludes that SWBT's request for intervention should be granted and that the parties should file a proposed procedural schedule. The procedural schedule must include either dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing, or a date for the filing of a Stipulation and Agreement. If no party requests a hearing, the Commission may grant the service authority and competitive classification requested without a hearing. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

**THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is granted intervention in this case in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(4).

2. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than August 31, 1998. The procedural schedule shall include either dates for the filing of testimony and for a hearing, or a date for the filing of a Stipulation and Agreement.

3. That this order shall be effective on August 4, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts".

**Dale Hardy Roberts**  
**Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(S E A L)

Brian K. Harper, 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 4th day of August, 1998.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION