## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application by Reduced Rate

Long Distance, LLC and Horizon Telecom, Inc. for

Approval of an Asset Purchase Agreement

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Case No. TM-2008-0288

## **ORDER CLOSING CASE**

Issue Date: June 3, 2008 Effective Date: June 3, 2008

On March 3, 2008, Reduced Rate Long Distance, LLC ("RRLD") and Horizon Telecom, Inc. ("Horizon") (collectively, "Joint Applicants") submitted a verified joint application to the Commission seeking its approval of a transaction whereby, pursuant to an Asset Purchase Agreement they executed on December 1, 2007, Horizon would sell to RRLD substantially all of its assets, including, but not limited to, Horizon's Missouri customer accounts. The Joint Applicants further requested that the Commission cancel Horizon's existing tariffs and certificate of service authority and permit Horizon to discontinue providing telecommunications service to its former customers upon the Commission's approval of the transaction.

On March 20, 2008, the Commission issued a Notice of Deficiency, in which it rejected the joint application on the grounds that it: (1) was missing various information required by the Commission's rules; (2) was not signed by at least one attorney of record authorized to practice law in Missouri; (3) did not include a certificate of service and did not otherwise affirmatively indicate that it was served on the General Counsel of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel; and (4) did not meet the pleading

requirements of the Commission rule specifying the procedure for seeking expedited treatment in any case before the Commission.

The Commission also advised the Joint Applicants that those deficiencies all had to be corrected before the Commission would take any further action on or give any further consideration to their request for authority to consummate the Asset Purchase Agreement and permanently discontinue Horizon's operations in Missouri. Over two months passed, but the Joint Applicants did not respond to the Notice.

Finally, on May 27, 2008, RRLD and Horizon filed a separate application seeking the Commission's approval of the same transaction. This application, which was signed by an attorney licensed to practice law in Missouri and did not suffer from any of the other deficiencies noted in the Commission's order of March 20, 2008, was assigned Case No. XM-2008-0371 and is now pending before the Commission. Accordingly, the Commission will close Case No. TM-2008-0288.

## IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- This case shall be closed on the effective date of this order.
- 2. This order shall become effective on June 3, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION

(SEAL)

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 3rd day of June, 2008.