

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

Big River Telephone Company, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. TC-2012-0284</u>
)	
Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P.,)	
d/b/a AT&T Missouri,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER DIRECTING FILING OF ANSWER AND WAIVING RULE

Issue Date: August 3, 2012

Effective Date: August 3, 2012

On March 1, 2012, Big River Telephone Company, LLC (“Big River”) filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) against Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a AT&T Missouri (“AT&T”). AT&T filed a *Request for Mediation* on March 26, 2012, and Big River filed a response agreeing to the request for voluntary mediation. On April 16, 2012, the Commission appointed a mediator to attempt a resolution of this matter, but on July 11, 2012, the mediator notified the Commission that mediation was unsuccessful.

On July 31, 2012, AT&T filed an answer to the complaint, which included a cross-complaint against Big River. The Commission will set a deadline for Big River to answer AT&T’s complaint allegations.

The mediator appointed Commission Staff members Cully Dale and William Voight as advisors to the mediator pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-36.030(15). That rule also prohibits those Staff members from participating in any

subsequent proceedings regarding the same negotiation. However, Big River and AT&T have notified the Commission that they wish to waive that rule requirement and permit Cully Dale and William Voight to participate in future proceedings concerning this matter. The Commission will grant the parties' request.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Big River Telephone Company, LLC shall file an answer to AT&T's complaint no later than August 30, 2012.
2. Commission Staff members Cully Dale and William Voight are permitted to fully participate in all future proceedings concerning this matter.
3. This order is effective immediately on issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Michael Bushmann, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
on this 3rd day of August, 2012.