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Secretary of PSC Missouri Public Service Commission P O Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Case No.

Tariff File No. 200200981

**Dear Secretary** 

Enclosed please find for filing an original and eight (8) copies of Missouri State Discount Telephone Company's Opposition to Public Counsel's Motion to Suspend

A copy of this letter and the enclosed Suggestions have been served upon all attorneys of record Thank you for seeing this filed

Sincerely,

Crarg \$ Johnson

CSJ tr Eric

cc Harry Theilepape Sondra Morgan

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

	Case No.
	Tariff No. 200200981
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Suggestions of Missouri State Discount Telephone in **Opposition** to Public Counsel's Motion to Suspend

Comes now Missouri State Discount Telephone (MSDT), and submits the following suggestions in opposition to the Office of the Public Counsel's May 30, 2002 Motion to Suspend and Request for Evidentiary Hearing

MSDT respectfully suggests that this tariff proceeding is concerned only with updating MSDT's tariff to list the exchanges of three companies with whom MSDT has obtained Commission-approved interconnection agreements In is inconsistent for OPC to complaint that this update has not been done earlier, and then ask to delay the updated tariff itself

The basis for OPC's motions deal with concerns OPC has regarding price cap regulation. Those concerns have nothing to do with the tariffs at issue The tariffs simply add a list of exchanges where MSDT is offering service after Commission-approved interconnection agreements. The substantive terms and conditions of MSDT tariffs are already on file with, and approved by, the MoPSC OPC's concerns are now the subject of a separate contested case docket. There is no purpose served by litigating those concerns in this simple tariff filing.

Granting OPC's motions would result in unnecessary duplication of the same issues in two separate proceedings

- MSDT obtained its certificate of service authority pursuant to Commission Order 1 Granting MSDT certification dated March 16, 2001 m TA-2001-334 This Order stated the certification became effective on the date MSDT's tariffs became effective On May 17, 2001, MSDT filed its initially proposed tariff sheets PSC Mo No 1 Sheets 1-49 Sheets 8-10 listed the exchanges of Southwestern Bell Telephone (TO-2000-467), Alltel Missouri Inc (TO-2000-469), and GTE Midwest (TO-99-610), as those were then all of the companies with whom MSDT had On June 11, 2001, substitute tariff sheets were filed by MSDT m interconnection agreements TA-2001-334, listing those same exchanges By Order dated June 26, 2001, also m TA-2001-334, the Commission entered an Order Approving Tariff for MSDT Thus, MSDT's certificate, and its original tariffs, became effective July 2, 2001 Later, on June 29, 2001, in Tariff proceeding 200101241, MSDT filed 1s t Revised Sheets No 10 and 11, which added the exchanges of Spectra and Sprint Missouri Inc to reflect other approved interconnection agreements These tariffs became effective August 2, 2001
- Subsequently, MSDT and Mid-Missouri Telephone Company had an interconnection or resale agreement approved m TO-2001-644, MSDT and Chariton Valley Telephone Corp had an interconnection or resale agreement approved m TO-2002-261, and MSDT and BPS Telephone Company had an interconnection or resale agreements approved in TO-2002-62 MSDT IS now filing revised tariff sheets for the exchanges of Mid-Missouri, Chariton Valley, and BPS, as it had done for the agreements approved with SWBT, GTE, Sprint, Spectra, and Alltel On May 20, 2002 MSDT initiated this proceeding by the simple act of filing revised tariff sheets adding the exchanges of Mid-Missouri, Chariton Valley, and BPS to

its tariff sheets This simple act was the same simple act previously approved in tariff proceeding 200101241 The tariff sheets in question would merely add the exchanges of Mid-Missouri, Chariton Valley, and BPS to reflect that the services of MSDT are actively being offered m the exchanges of those companies The tariff sheets would merely reflect what the Commission has already approved in Orders approving interconnection agreements

- OPC's Motion to Suspend makes no complaint regarding the format or the purpose of the tariff filings at issue here Instead, OPC challenges the filing on the grounds MSDT was not certified to provide service in BPS exchanges on March 13, 2002, the date BPS reportedly filed a notice of election of price cap regulation
- On May 17, 2002, OPC filed a motion to establish a case to conduct an investigation into the status of prepaid local service providers That case has apparently been docketed as CO-2002-1078 In that motion OPC raises each and every contention raised m its May 30 Motion to suspend the tariff at issue here None of the issues OPC raises here, or raises m CO-2002-1078, are directed to the substance of this tariff filing On the one hand, OPC criticizes MSDT for not making the tariff filing earlier On the other hand, OPC seeks to further delay what OPC says should have been done before By the Act of requesting suspension, OPC keeps MSDT from accomplishing that very thing which OPC indicates should be done

Unless there is some defect on the face of the tariffs at issue here, and OPC has articulated none, it makes little sense to create further delay when the existing delay is the sole complaint OPC makes of MSDT

5 MSDT has no direct interest in the price cap status of BPS Telephone Company MSDT is interested m having its tariffs updated to reflect the exchanges for which This

Commission, through Orders approving interconnection agreements, has previously approved for MSDT

- In its motion to suspend, OPC does make assertions of law that MSDT disagrees with These assertions have nothing to do with the propriety of approving the tariffs at issue here MSDT wishes to go on record as disagreeing with OPC's assertion that MSDT was not certified to provide service m BPS exchanges on March 13, 2002 As set forth above in paragraphs 1 and 2, MSDT obtained its certificate of service authority for the entire state of Missouri pursuant to Commission Order Granting MSDT certification dated March 16, 2001 in TA-2001-334 This certificate was effective upon approval of MSDT's initially approved tariff That tariff was approved effective July 21, 2001 pursuant to Order dated June 26, 2001, also in TA-2001-334 Interconnection agreement approvals, and tariff revisions to add exchanges of companies with interconnection agreements, are steps taken subsequent to certification MSDT has been certified to provide service in BPS exchanges since July 2, 2001
- MSDT has no objection to OPC pursuing the issues set forth m its Motion to Establish an Investigation, currently docketed as TO-2002-1078, in that docket MSDT does object to litigating those issues in this tariff proceeding, as those issues are not within the scope of the tariffs filed Denial of OPC's motion to suspend and request for hearing in this tariff proceeding will in no way prejudice OPC's pursuit of the issues it has raised in TO-2002-178

Wherefore, MSDT respectfully requests that the Commission deny OPC's motion to suspend and request for evidentiary hearing

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ATTORNEYS FOR MSDT

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was mailed, via U S Mail, postage prepaid, this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2002, to all

attorneys of record in this proceeding

Craig S Johnson MO Bar No 28179