

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

In Re: The Interconnection Agreement By)
and Between Sprint Missouri, Inc. and Big) Case No. _____
River Telephone Company LLC, Pursuant)
to Sections 251 and 252 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

**APPLICATION OF SPRINT MISSOURI, INC. FOR
APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

COMES NOW, Sprint Missouri, Inc, d/b/a Sprint ("Sprint") and files its Application for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement ("Agreement") between Big River Telephone Company LLC ("Big River") and Sprint Missouri, Inc. pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Federal Act"). In support of its application, Sprint states the following:

I. APPLICANT

Sprint is a Missouri corporation with offices at 319 Madison, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Sprint is authorized to transact business within the State of Missouri and is authorized by the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") to provide basic local and interexchange telecommunications service within the state.

Sprint was originally incorporated in Missouri in 1929 as The United Telephone Company. A restatement of its certification was received in Case No. TA-88-87. Sprint has received all necessary Commission and Secretary of State approvals for subsequent name changes and is a corporation in good standing in the State of Missouri.

Evidence of proper name registrations was most recently provided to this Commission in Case No. TO-97-53 (Re: United Telephone Company of Missouri's Adoption Notice Designed to Change the Company's Name to United Telephone

Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint) and Case No. TO-98-107 (Application of United Telephone Company of Missouri d/b/a Sprint for Approval of Name Change to Sprint Missouri, Inc.). Sprint requests that the information in those cases be incorporated herein by reference. To Sprint's knowledge there are no overdue assessments or annual reports nor are there any pending actions or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it involving customer service or rates occurring within the last three years.

II. INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

Sprint presents to the Commission its application pursuant to the terms of the Federal Act. Sprint Missouri, Inc., a Missouri corporation, and Big River Telephone Company LLC, a Missouri CLEC entered into an Interconnection Agreement dated August 16, 2005 (Attachment 1). There are no outstanding issues related to the Agreement between the parties that require the assistance of mediation or arbitration.

III. STANDARD FOR REVIEW

The statutory standard of review under Section 252(e) of the Act states:

- (e) Approval by State Commission
 - (1) Approval Required. Any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration shall be submitted for approval to the state commission. A State commission to which an agreement is submitted to shall approve or reject the agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies.
 - (2) under subsection (a) if it finds Grounds for Rejection. The State commission may only reject.
 - (A) an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation that:
 - (i) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or

(ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity; or...

Sprint further states that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity in that it allows for full and fair competition and greater choice for the consumer. The Agreement does not discriminate against other carriers who are not a party to the Agreement because the terms of the Agreement are equally available to any other carrier.

IV. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Sprint seeks the Commission's approval of the Agreement, consistent with the provisions of the Federal Act. Sprint and Big River believe that the implementation of this Agreement complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Federal Act because the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The Agreement promotes diversity in providers, provides interconnectivity, and increases customer choices for telecommunications services.

Sprint and Big River respectfully request that the Commission grant approval of the Agreement, without change, suspension or other delay in its implementation.

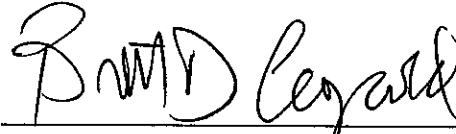
V. MISSOURI LEGISLATION

The negotiated and executed Agreement is consistent with the Missouri Legislation, Senate Bill No. 507, which became effective on August 28, 1996.

VI. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Sprint requests that the Commission approve the Interconnection Agreement between Sprint Missouri, Inc. and Big River Telephone Company LLC.

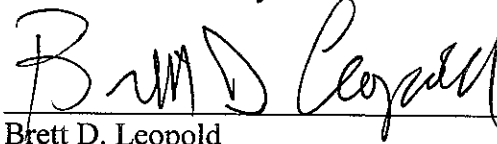
Respectfully submitted,



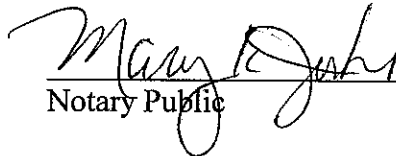
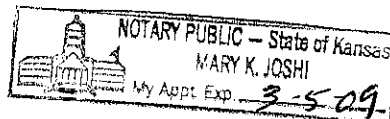
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VERIFICATION

I, Brett D. Leopold, an attorney and duly authorized representative of Sprint Missouri, Inc. hereby verify and affirm that I have read the foregoing Application of Sprint Missouri, Inc. For Approval of an Interconnection Agreement, and that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.


Brett D. Leopold

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 30th day of September, 2005.


Notary Public

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 3 day of Oct., 2005, a copy of the above and foregoing Application for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement was served by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid and or email or facsimile to each of the following:

Office of the Public Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Andrew Schwantner
Big River Telephone Company LLC
24 S. Minnesota Avenue
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703

Office of the General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

