

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 27th day
of January, 2016.

In the Matter of an Investigation in which to
Gather Information about the Facility Extension
Practices of ETCs Eligible to Receive High Cost
USF Support

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File No. TO-2016-0184

**ORDER OPENING AN INVESTIGATION
INTO THE FACILITY EXTENSION POLICIES OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
CARRIERS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE HIGH-COST USF SUPPORT**

Issue Date: January 27, 2016

Effective Date: January 27, 2016

On January 15, 2016, the Commission's Staff filed a motion asking the Commission to open an investigation into the facility extension practices of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC's) that are eligible to receive High Cost USF Support. Section 386.330, RSMo 2000, gives the Commission authority to investigate the operations of telecommunications companies subject to its supervision. The Commission does not need to open a formal case for Staff to conduct such an investigation, but the creation of an investigative case will assist Staff in working with the companies to ensure their compliance with all statutes and regulations. In addition, an open case will afford Staff an opportunity to report to the Commission as appropriate.

This is only an investigative case and is not a contested case. The Commission will not take any action against any company within the confines of this case. If the investigation reveals that any such action may be appropriate, Staff may file a formal complaint or other appropriate pleading within a new case file to institute contested case procedures.

Staff's motion to open this investigation includes an Attachment A that lists 14 questions that Staff asks the Commission to direct certain listed companies to answer. The Commission will do so.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Staff shall undertake an investigation of the facility extension practices of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers that are eligible to receive High Cost USF Support.
2. The Commission's data center shall provide a copy of this order to those companies listed in Attachment B to Staff's Motion to Open an Investigatory Docket.
3. Those companies listed in Attachment B to Staff's Motion to Open an Investigatory Docket shall answer the questions listed in Attachment A to Staff's motion. The companies shall file their answers to those questions in this file. In doing so, they do not need to serve their responses on the other companies directed to file answers to those questions.
4. Staff shall file a progress report regarding its investigation no later than July 29, 2016.
5. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION



Morris L. Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Hall, Chm., Stoll, Kenney, Rupp, and
Coleman, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge