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

Alma Communications Company d/b/a Alma Telephone Company; Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation; Chariton Valley Telecom Corporation; Choctaw Telephone Company; Mid-Missouri Telephone Company, a Corporate Division of Otelco, Inc.; and MoKan Dial, Inc.,	) ) ) ) )
Worker Blan, mo.,	
Complainants,	
v.	File No. TO-2012-0035
Halo Wireless, Inc., and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Missouri,	, ) )
Respondent.	) )

## ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION TO INTERVENE

Issue Date: January 31, 2012 Effective Date: January 31, 2012

On January 19, 2012, the Small Telephone Company Group ("STCG") filed an application to intervene. On January 30, 2012, Halo Wireless, Inc. ("Halo") filed its opposition to the application. Halo's opposition relies on its legal theory that the Commission lacks jurisdiction over this matter. Consequently, according to Halo, there can be no decision that would affect the STCG in any manner negating any claim that the STCG has an interest in this matter warranting intervention.

Halo's jurisdictional argument, used as attempt to block intervention, is misplaced. The Commission will address Halo's jurisdictional argument once all parties have an opportunity to present argument on that issue. Indeed, a premature finding that the Commission lacks jurisdiction may adversely affect the STCG's interests and the

SCTG is entitled to procedural due process to present argument on that issue. If the Commission determines it has jurisdiction, then there is no question the STCG has substantive interests that could be affected by the Commission's decision on the merits of the underlying application to reject portions of the interconnection agreement that is in dispute. The application meets the requirements of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.075. The Commission will grant the application.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Small Telephone Company Group's application to intervene is granted.
- 2. The Small Telephone Company Group shall comply with the filing deadline established in the Commission's order reactivating this case issued on January 17, 2012. The Small Telephone Group shall reply to all filings that are responsive to the "Application for Rejection of Portions of an Interconnection Agreement" no later than February 13, 2012.
  - 3. This order is effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

(SEAL)

Harold Stearley, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 388.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2012.