

1 STATE OF MISSOURI
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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6 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
7 Prehearing Conference
8 December 17, 2003
9 Jefferson City, Missouri
10 Volume 1
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12 In the Matter of the Application of)
13 American Farm Bureau, Inc., d/b/a)
14 The Farm Bureau Connection for a)
15 Certificate of Service Authority) Case No. CA-2004-0131
16 to Provide Basic Local)
17 Telecommunications Service in)
18 Portions of the State of Missouri)
19 and to Classify Said Service and the)
20 Company as Competitive.)
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23 KENNARD L. JONES, Presiding,
24 REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.
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27 REPORTED BY:
28 KELLENE K. FEDDERSEN, CSR, RPR, CCR
29 ASSOCIATED COURT REPORTERS
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13 FOR: Staff of the Missouri Public
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE JONES: This is a prehearing conference
3 for Case No. CA-2004-0131, in the matter of the application
4 of American Farm Bureau, Incorporated, doing business as the
5 Farm Bureau Connection for a certificate of service
6 authority to provide local telecommunications service in
7 portions of the state of Missouri and to classify said
8 services and the company as competitive.

9 My name is Kennard Jones. I am the Regulatory
10 Law Judge presiding over this matter. And at this time I'd
11 ask all of you who are present to introduce yourselves,
12 starting with Public Service Commission Staff.

13 MR. MEYER: Good morning, your Honor. My name
14 is David Meyer. I'm representing the Staff of the Public
15 Service Commission. Our address is P.O. Box 360,
16 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

17 MR. FRESE: Good morning. Dana Frese
18 representing the Applicant, Carson & Coil, Jefferson City,
19 Missouri.

20 JUDGE JONES: I'll make a note that the Office
21 of the Public Counsel is not present.

22 This prehearing conference was set at the
23 request of Staff in light of the Applicant's, I don't want
24 to say refusal, but for lack of a better word refusal to
25 cooperate with Staff's request for information in processing

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1 this application.

2 Mr. Frese, I'll start with you. Has your
3 client since cooperated with Staff?

4 MR. FRESE: Well, I don't think there's ever
5 been a refusal to cooperate. There may have been a delay in
6 getting information provided to the Public Service
7 Commission as quickly as they would have liked.

8 I did communicate with the client through
9 their primary counsel last week regarding a couple of
10 outstanding issues that had not been previously addressed,
11 and I sent a facsimile to Mr. Meyer's office last evening
12 addressing those issues.

13 Mr. Meyer tells me that there is still one
14 outstanding item regarding the assessments. Although we had
15 provided documentation regarding payment of the assessment
16 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, they are still
17 requesting clarification that the assessment for the fiscal
18 year beginning July 1, 2000 of \$31.51, that payment of that
19 needs to be confirmed. I will certainly do that. As soon
20 as I get back to the office, I will request verification of
21 payment of that \$31.51 assessment.

22 I believe we have addressed the other issues
23 raised by the Public Service Commission. We had previously
24 filed a motion to amend the application by interlineation
25 which was sent on November 21.

1 Thank you.

2 JUDGE JONES: Mr. Meyer?

3 MR. MEYER: Yes, your Honor. I can confirm

4 Mr. Frese's comments and would agree that at this point it

5 does appear that Staff's concerns, with the exception of the

6 unpaid assessment, have been addressed, and that we expect

7 to hopefully hear additional information on that in the very

8 near future. And accordingly, we at this time do not

9 believe that a hearing will be required subject to

10 resolution of the assessment, outstanding assessment amount

11 issue.

12 JUDGE JONES: Do you have any objection to

13 their motion to amend the application by interlineation?

14 MR. MEYER: No, we do not, your Honor.

15 JUDGE JONES: I'll grant that motion at this

16 time, then.

17 All right. Is there anything else the parties

18 would like to discuss?

19 MR. FRESE: I don't believe so.

20 JUDGE JONES: With that, then, we'll conclude

21 the hearing.

22 WHEREUPON, the on-the-record portion of the

23 prehearing conference was concluded.

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