

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

In the matter of the Application of Cincinnati Bell)	
Any Distance Inc. for a Certificate of Service)	File No. CA-2010-0098
Authority to Provide Basic Local and Non-Switched)	
Exchange Telecommunications Services in the)	
State of Missouri and to Classify the Services)	
and the Company as Competitive.)	

STAFF RESPONSE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its response to the Request for Partial Waiver in the Application, states as follows:

1. On September 18, 2009, Cincinnati Bell Any Distance Inc. (“the Company”) filed its Application in this case. It requested the authority to provide basic local telecommunications and non-switched local exchange telecommunications service in the State of Missouri, classify the company and its basic local services as competitive. In that Application, the Company noted that it is a publicly traded company whose financial documents are open to the public on the Securities and Exchange Commission’s web site (and the application included a link to those documents). Therefore, the Company seeks a waiver of 4 CSR 240-3.510(1)(D)1.B-D.

2. The Staff agrees that a partial waiver is appropriate in this case. Having looked at this issue extensively, the Staff does not believe that the highly specific requirements set forth in the rule are appropriate. In the decade since the rule was enacted, the Staff does not believe that the rigid application of the specific requirements has created any more stability among competitive providers than would have existed if the applicants had provided only an income statement and balance sheet. Competitive companies have failed at approximately the same rate as in other states that have more vague requirements. In addition, although many competitive providers have failed, the Commission-required snap-back procedures have protected consumers; to date (and to the best of the Staff’s knowledge) no complaints have been filed with consumer services concerning the failure of a competitive provider.

3. Until such time as the rule can be amended, the Staff recommends that the portion of the rule requiring documentation in excess of a balance sheet and income statement be waived in the Company's application case. In 4 CSR 240-3.015(1), the Commission expressly retained the ability to waive any portion of the filing requirements.

WHEREFORE, the Staff supports the partial waiver of 4 CSR 240-3.510(1)(D)1. B-D.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 22nd day of September, 2009.

