

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Mark Sievers, Chairman
 Ward Loyd
 Thomas E. Wright

In the Matter of Staff's Motion Requesting)
the Commission Order S & T Telephone)
Coop Association, Inc. to Submit to an) Docket No. 12-S&TT-234-KSF
Audit for Purposes of Determining its Cost-)
Based Kansas Universal Service Fund)
Support, Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-2008.)

ORDER DESIGNATING PREHEARING OFFICER

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On October 7, 2011, Commission Staff filed its Motion Requesting The Commission Order S & T Telephone Coop Association, Inc. (S&T) to Submit to an Audit for Purposes of Determining Its Cost-Based Kansas Universal Service Fund Support Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-2008.

2. Although the Commission will conduct the evidentiary hearing in this docket, the Commission designates a prehearing officer to conduct any prehearing conferences that might be needed in this proceeding and to address any matters that are appropriately considered in a prehearing conference, including all items listed in the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act at K.S.A. 77-517(b). These items include, for example, conversion of the proceeding to another type; exploration of settlement possibilities; preparation of stipulations; clarification of issues; rulings on identity and limitation of the number of witnesses; objections to proffers of evidence; determination of the extent to which direct evidence, rebuttal evidence, or cross-examination will

be presented in written form, and the extent to which telephone or other electronic means will be used as a substitute for proceedings in person; order of presentation of evidence and cross-examination; rulings regarding issuance of subpoenas; discovery orders and protective orders; and such other matters as will promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the hearing.

3. The Commission concludes that a Prehearing Officer should be designated for this proceeding and designates Andrew French, Advisory Counsel, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027, telephone number 785-271-3361, email address a.french@kcc.ks.gov, to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-514; K.S.A. 77-516; K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-551. The Commission, as it deems necessary, may designate other staff members to serve in this capacity.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The Commission designates Andrew French to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding, as described above. The Commission directs the Prehearing Officer to work with the parties to develop a procedural schedule in this docket.

B. Parties have 15 days, plus three days if service of this Order is by mail, from the date of service of this Order in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary and proper.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: APR 11 2012


ORDER MAILED APR 12 2012

Patrice Petersen-Klein
Executive Director

AF

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET
TO THE FOLLOWING:

NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. CERT. COPIES	NO. PLAIN COPIES
JAMES M. CAPLINGER, ATTORNEY JAMES M. CAPLINGER, CHARTERED 823 W 10TH STREET TOPEKA, KS 66612		
COLLEEN R. HARRELL JAMES M. CAPLINGER, CHARTERED 823 W 10TH STREET TOPEKA, KS 66612		
ROBERT A. FOX, SENIOR LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 ***Hand Delivered***		
ANDREW FRENCH, ADVISORY COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 ***Hand Delivered***		
STEVE RICHARDS, GENERAL MANAGER S&T TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC. 320 KANSAS AVENUE PO BOX 99 BREWSTER, KS 67732		
CAROLYN R. SOMERS, CFO S&T TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC. 320 KANSAS AVENUE PO BOX 99 BREWSTER, KS 67732		
KEVIN KELLY, DIRECTOR OF REGULATORY TCA INC 526 CHAPEL HILLS DR STE 100 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80920-1030		

ORDER MAILED APR 12 2012

The Docket Room hereby certified that on this _____ day of _____, 20_____, it caused a true and correct copy of the attached ORDER to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above persons.