#### 2002.11.12 13:19:31 Kansas Corporation Commission THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION/ Jeffery S. Wasaman OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:

John Wine, Chair Cynthia L. Claus Brian J. Moline

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for Approval of Interconnection Agreement Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with Sprint Communications Company, L.P.

Docket No. 03-SWBT-301-IAT

### <u>ORDER</u>

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NOW, the above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("Commission"). Having examined its files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On October 9, 2002, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company ("SWBT") filed an application seeking approval of an interconnection agreement ("Agreement") between SWBT and Sprint Communications Company, L.P. ("Sprint").

2. These parties originally arbitrated an agreement filed in Docket No. 97-SCCC-167-ARB. The Commission approved that arbitrated agreement on February 26, 1997. The parties have negotiated this Agreement that will replace the former one upon approval by the Commission. The parties included an amendment with the filing that adds DS3 digital loop, OC3 digital loop, OC12 digital loop and OC48 digital loop combination language as well as Unbundled Dedicated Transport language.

3. The parties state that approval is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. They indicate the Agreement and the amendment do not discriminate against any

telecommunications carrier. The parties contend that the Agreement and the amendment thereto promote a diversity of local service providers, provide interconnectivity and increase customers' choices for telecommunications services.

4. On November 4, 2002, Commission staff ("Staff") submitted a memorandum recommending Commission approval of the Agreement. To the extent the Company's presence increases the options for local telephone services, Staff believes the public will generally benefit from Commission approval of the Agreement and amendment. The termination date of this Agreement and the amendment is November 24, 2004; however, it may remain in full force and effect until terminated by either party after proper notice. Staff states that Sprint is registered with the office of the Kansas Secretary of State with a status of "active and in good standing."

5. The Commission finds and concludes that the application for an Agreement and amendment thereto between SWBT and Sprint for the interconnection of local telecommunications services should be approved. The Agreement and amendment are consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and do not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier.

#### IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The interconnection agreement and amendment between Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and Sprint Communications Company, L.P. are hereby approved, effective ten days following the date this order is filed.

B. Any party may file a petition for reconsideration of this order within fifteen days of the date this order is served. If service is by mail, service is complete upon mailing and three days may be added to the above time frame.

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The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the C.

purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary.

## BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Wine, Chr.; Claus, Com.; Moline, Com.

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**ORDER MAILED** 

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And L. Wagaman Executive Director

Executive Director

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