# insmore&Shohl

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February 26, 2009

### VIA HAND DELIVERY

Jeff Derouen, Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

RECEIVED

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Complaint of Sprint Communications Company L.P. Against Re: Brandenburg Telephone Company for the Unlawful Imposition of Access Charges: Case No. 2008-00135.

Dear Mr. Derouen:

I have enclosed for filing in the above-styled cases the original and eleven (11) copies of Brandenburg Telephone Company's response to Sprint Communications Company L.P.'s motion to enforce the April 15, 2008 order to answer or satisfy. Please file-stamp one copy and return it to our delivery person.

Brandenburg Telephone further advises the Commission that it intends to file a reply in support of its February 2, 2009 emergency motion to compel payment of access charges. It will do so no later than this coming Monday, March 2, 2009.

Thank you, and if you have any questions, please call us.

Sincerely

ETD/lb

John N. Hughes, Esq. cc: William R. Atkinson, Esq. John E. Selent, Esq. Holly C. Wallace, Esq.

Dayton

#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT   | ) |                   |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| OF SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS     | ) |                   |
| COMPANY L.P. AGAINST         | ) | Case No. 2008-135 |
| BRANDENBURG TELEPHONE        | ) |                   |
| COMPANY FOR THE UNLAWFUL     | ) |                   |
| IMPOSITION OF ACCESS CHARGES | ) |                   |

## BRANDENBURG TELEPHONE COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY'S MOTION TO ENFORCE APRIL 15, 2008 ORDER TO SATISFY OR ANSWER

Brandenburg Telephone Company ("Brandenburg Telephone"), by counsel, hereby submits its response to Sprint Communications Company L.P.'s ("Sprint's") motion to enforce the April 15, 2008 order of the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (the "Commission"). In response to that motion, Brandenburg Telephone states that Sprint's motion should be denied for the following reasons.

Sprint's motion claims that Brandenburg Telephone has violated the Commission's April 15, 2008 order (the "Order") by sending Sprint a notice of disconnection. Brandenburg Telephone has not violated the Order. Brandenburg Telephone has not terminated services to Sprint, nor will it do so without a Commission order authorizing it to do so. Brandenburg Telephone has merely taken all of the necessary prerequisite steps to terminate service so that – if and when it does receive such an order with respect to Sprint's nonpayment of the undisputed charges – it will be in a position to do so promptly, and without the further delay that may otherwise be occasioned by tariff or regulatory restrictions.

Brandenburg Telephone's answer and counterclaim in this matter sought permission to terminate Sprint's services. (See Answer and Counterclaim at 11.) Brandenburg Telephone has

moved the Commission for emergency relief in the form of an order that Sprint must pay its

undisputed charges. (See February 2, 2009 Emergency Motion to Compel Payment of Access

Charges.) Brandenburg Telephone has filed a complaint in Meade Circuit Court (Case No. 09-CI-

00039) for a judgment in the amount of the undisputed charges. As required by its tariffs and

applicable regulations, Brandenburg Telephone has now also provided Sprint with a notice of

disconnection for nonpayment of the undisputed charges. Brandenburg Telephone notified the

Commission of this action on February 17, 2009. (See Exhibit 1 to this Response.) As with any of

these actions, Brandenburg cannot and will not proceed to ultimate relief without appropriate

authority from the Commission or the Court. Nevertheless, Sprint surely cannot suggest that

Brandenburg Telephone lacks the right to take all necessary prerequisite actions to proceed once

appropriate authority is obtained.

As noted in Brandenburg Telephone's pending emergency motion, Sprint's uncontestedly

precarious financial condition makes the nonpayment of undisputed charges a serious concern for

Brandenburg Telephone. As the Commission ordered, Brandenburg Telephone will not terminate

Sprint's services without permission to do so. However, there is no fault in making the necessary

legal and regulatory preparations to take that action.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Commission should deny Sprint's motion.

Respectfully submitted,

John E/Selent

Edward T. Depp

Holly C. Wallage

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Counsel to Brandenburg Telephone Company

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served on the following, via first-class U.S. Mail, on this day of February, 2009:

John N. Hughes Attorney at Law 124 West Todd Street Frankfort, KY 40601

Counsel for Sprint Communications Company L.P.

Counsel to Brandenburg Telephone Company

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