

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT) DOCKET NO. 74071-TA-99-5
APPLICATION OF MCI WORLDCOM,) DOCKET NO. 74006-TA-99-71
INC., AND SPRINT CORPORATION) DOCKET NO. 70038-TA-99-3
FOR AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER) DOCKET NO. 72003-TA-99-116
CONTROL OF SPRINT TO MCI) DOCKET NO. 72001-TA-99-154
WORLDCOM INCLUDING ALL) DOCKET NO. 70021-TA-99-5
SUBSIDIARIES DOING BUSINESS) DOCKET NO. 74007-TA-99-16
IN WYOMING) DOCKET NO. 74219-TA-99-17
) DOCKET NO. 74183-TA-99-8
) DOCKET NO. 70009-TA-99-91
) (RECORD NO. 5413)

ORDER DISMISSING APPLICATION

(Issued August 11, 2000)

This matter is before the Commission upon the joint application of MCI WorldCom, Inc., hereinafter referred to as MCI WorldCom, and Sprint Corporation, hereinafter referred to as Sprint, for authority to transfer control of Sprint's Wyoming operating subsidiaries to MCI WorldCom.

The Commission, having reviewed the joint application, its files regarding the joint applicants, the evidence presented at the public hearing held on May 22, 2000, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, FINDS and CONCLUDES:

1. MCI WorldCom and Sprint, as well as their Wyoming operating subsidiaries, are telecommunications companies as defined by W.S. § 37-15-103(a)(xi), and as such, are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of W.S. § 37-15-401.
2. On December 21, 1999, MCI WorldCom and Sprint filed their joint application in this matter. The joint application stated that the companies had entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger whereby MCI WorldCom would acquire control of Sprint and its Wyoming operating subsidiaries.
3. MCI WorldCom, through various operating subsidiaries provides interexchange telecommunications services in Wyoming and the rest of the United States including the District of Columbia. Additionally, MCI Metro Access Transmission Services, LLC, holds a Concurrent Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide local exchange telecommunications services within Wyoming. MCI WorldCom's operating subsidiaries include: MCI WorldCom Network Services, Inc.; MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc.; BLT Technologies, Inc.; Touch 1 Long Distance, Inc.; TTI National, Inc.; and Teleconnect Long Distance Services & Systems, Co., d/b/a Telecom*USA; and MCI Metro Access Transmission Services, LLC.
4. Sprint's operating subsidiaries provide local exchange telecommunications services in Wyoming and 18 other states.

Additionally, the Company, through its operating subsidiaries provides interexchange telecommunications services in Wyoming and the rest of the United States including the District of Columbia. Sprint's local exchange operating subsidiary in Wyoming is United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a Sprint which serves approximately 7,000 access lines in and around Torrington, Guernsey, LaGrange and Lingle Wyoming.

5. The joint application stated that the assets of MCI WorldCom and Sprint were "remarkably complementary." It further stated that the proposed merger would serve to expand the reach of both companies into local markets. MCI WorldCom and Sprint avered that the proposed merger would not have an adverse impact upon the ability of Sprint's operating subsidiaries to serve the public.
6. On January 18, 2000, the Commission issued a notice of application with regard to this matter. This notice contained a protest deadline of February 17, 2000, and established a prehearing conference to be held on February 22, 2000. No protests or requests to intervene were filed during the protest period.
7. On February 24, 2000, the Commission issued a procedural order which set this matter for hearing on May 22, 2000.
8. Pursuant to the provisions of the Commission's procedural order, a public hearing was held, with regard to this matter, on May 22, 2000.
9. Public deliberations were held, with regard to this matter on June 19, 2000. During these deliberations, the Commission authorized the issuance of an order approving the joint application.
10. On July 18, 2000, the joint applicants notified the Commission of their decision not to proceed with the proposed merger.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Pursuant to open meeting action taken on July 27, 2000, the joint application of MCI WorldCom, Inc., and Sprint Corporation for authority to transfer control of Sprint's Wyoming operating subsidiaries to MCI WorldCom is hereby dismissed, without prejudice.
2. This Order is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming this 11th day of August, 2000.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

STEVE ELLENBECKER, Chairman

KRISTIN H. LEE, Commissioner

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

IVAN H. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretary