

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

In the Matter of the Application for Approval)	
of an Amendment to the Interconnection)	<u>File No. IK-2013-0494</u>
Agreement with Big River Telephone Company)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and submits its Recommendation as follows:

1. On May 10, 2013, BPS Telephone Company (“BPS”) filed an application with the Commission for approval of an amendment to a traffic termination agreement with Big River Telephone Company (“Big River”) under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. BPS states that the agreement complies with Section 252(e) of the Act in that it is consistent with public interest, convenience and necessity, and not discriminatory to nonparty carriers.

2. 47 USC 252(e)(2) provides that a state commission may only reject an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation if the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to it or its implementation is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

3. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff herein states that the amendment to the interconnection agreement does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not parties to it, nor is its implementation inconsistent with the public interest, convenience or necessity. A copy of the Amendment was filed with the Application. BPS is certificated as an incumbent local telecommunications company; Big River Telephone Company is certificated as a competitive local and interexchange telecommunications company.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission approve the Application and direct the parties to submit to the Commission any subsequent modifications or amendments to the Interconnection Agreement.

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 23rd day of May, 2013.

