

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

In the Matter of the Name Change for Citizens )	
Telephone Company of Higginsville Missouri, )	<b><u>File No. IN-2023-0271</u></b>
Inc. to Citizens Telephone Company of )	Tracking No. YI-2023-0156
Higginsville Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Green Hills )	
Communications )	

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and submits its Recommendation as follows:

1. On February 17, 2023, pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-28.011(2), Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville Missouri, Inc. (“Company”) submitted a letter advising it had adopted “Green Hills Communications” as its fictitious name, and requested the Commission acknowledge its adoption of Green Hills Communications.

2. The Company stated the effective date of the name change will be immediate upon approval of the Commission and the Company’s contact information has been updated in the Electronic Filing and Information System (“EFIS”). The Company also stated it will continue to comply with all applicable laws and rules relating to ETC designation pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-31.015(2) and provided a copy of its customer newsletter that contained the Green Hills Communications designation. The Company provided copies of its name change documents with the Missouri Secretary of State and an adoption notice for Tariff No. 4. The company stated it is withdrawing Tariff No. 5.

3. On February 24, 2023, the Commission Ordered Staff to file its recommendation regarding the Company’s request by March 10, 2023.

4. 20 CSR 4240-28.011(2) states in relevant part:

(2) Any company with a certificate or registration that changes its name shall provide advance notice to the commission of the name change.

(A) Notice may be in the form of a letter signed by company official submitted into Electronic Filing and Information System (EFIS) as a new case submission containing the following information:

1. The new name of the company and date the new name takes effect;
2. Documentation that the new name is registered with the Missouri Secretary of State; and
3. A statement the company has reviewed and, if necessary, updated the company's contacts in EFIS.

(B) If the company maintains a tariff, then the letter must be accompanied by either a tariff filing that replaces the existing tariff in its entirety or a one- (1-) page adoption notice of the existing tariff.

5. 20 CSR 4240-31.015(2) States in pertinent part:

(2) Notice requirement for ETC name changes. At least ten (10) days prior to the use of a new name, an ETC should file a written notice in EFIS that includes—

- (A) A statement clearly setting out the old name and the new name;
- (B) Evidence of registration of the new name with the Missouri Secretary of State;
- (C) A statement that the company will continue to comply with all applicable laws and rules relating to ETC designation;
- (D) A statement that the company's contacts in EFIS have been reviewed and are correct; and
- (E) A copy of the notice informing customers of the name change.

6. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff hereby states: the Company has filed all the requisite documentation and that the Company has complied with all other aspects of the rules set forth in 20 CSR 4240-28.011(2) and 20 CSR 4240-31.015(2). No entities have intervened to oppose the name change. The Company is not delinquent in any required filings with the Commission.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff recommends the Commission recognize the name change of Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville Missouri, Inc. to Citizens Telephone Company of Higginsville Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Green Hills Communications and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**