

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

In the Matter of the Application for Approval of an	)	
Interconnection Agreement between McDonald	)	<b><u>File No. IK-2021-0402</u></b>
County Telephone Company and Teleport	)	
Communications America, LLC	)	

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

1. On May 20, 2021, McDonald County Telephone Company, ("McDonald County Telephone") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its *Application for Approval of a Negotiated Interconnection Agreement* between itself and Teleport Communications America, LLC ("Teleport Communications America").

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 hereby states that the Amendment does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not a party to the Amendment, nor is its implementation inconsistent with the public interest, convenience or necessity. A copy of the Amendment was filed with the *Application*. McDonald County Telephone is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange carrier. Teleport Communications America is certificated with the Commission as a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier.

**WHEREFORE,** Staff recommends the Commission approve the *Application* and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Ron Irving**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021, to all counsel of record.

**/s/ Ron Irving**