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

In the Matter of the Application of Kingdom ) Telecommunications, Inc., for a Certificate of ) Service Authority to Provide Interexchange ) and Non-Switched Local Exchange ) Telecommunications Services in Portions of ) the State of Missouri and to Classify Said ) Services and the Company as Competitive. )

Case No. LA-2010-0144

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and for its <u>Staff Recommendation</u> states as follows:

1. On November 9, 2009, Kingdom Telecommunications, Inc. (Kingdom or the Company) filed an <u>Application for Certificate of Service Authority to Provide Interexchange and Non-Switched Local Exchange Telecommunications Service and for Competitive Classification (Application) with the Missouri Public Service Commission (the Commission), requesting that the Commission grant the Company certificate(s) of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange and non-switched local exchange telecommunications services, classify the Company as competitive, and grant the waivers listed in the Company's <u>Application</u>.</u>

2. On November 12, 2009, the Commission published its <u>Notice of Applications for</u> <u>Intrastate Certificates of Service Authority and Opportunity to Intervene</u>, providing notice and setting an intervention deadline of November 27, 2009.

3. Also on November 12, 2009, the Commission issued its <u>Order Directing Staff to</u> <u>File Recommendation</u>, ordering Staff to file a recommendation by December 10, 2009. 4. Pursuant to Sections 392.430 and 392.440 RSMo (2000)<sup>1</sup>, the Commission shall grant an application for a certificate of telecommunications service authority upon a finding that the grant of authority is in the public interest.

5. In the attached Memorandum, labeled Appendix A, Staff recommends because the <u>Application</u> demonstrates that the grant of authority is in the public interest the Commission grant Kingdom a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services.

6. In Appendix A, Staff further recommends because the <u>Application</u> demonstrates the grant of authority is in the public interest the Commission grant Kingdom a certificate of service authority to provide non-switched local exchange telecommunications services, subject to the following two (2) conditions:

A. The Company's originating and terminating access rates shall not exceed the access rates of the incumbent local exchange company against whom the Company is competing pursuant to Sections 392.361.6 and 392.370; and

B. If the directly-competing ILEC, in whose service area the Company is operating, decreases its originating and/or terminating access service rates, the Company shall file an appropriate tariff amendment to reduce its originating and/or terminating access rates in the directly-competing ILEC's service area within thirty (30) days of the directly-competing ILEC's reduction of its originating and/or terminating access rates in order to maintain the cap.

7. Staff also recommends the Commission classify Kingdom and the services it proposes to offer in its <u>Application</u> as competitive. Pursuant to Section 392.361.4, the Commission may classify a telecommunications provider or its services as competitive if the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all references to statute refer to the Missouri Revised Statutes (2000), as currently supplemented.

Commission determines it is subject to sufficient competition to justify a lesser degree of regulation. Under Section 392.361.3, as amended by HB 1779, in order to be classified as competitive, the majority of services offered by a company must be classified as competitive.

8. Staff further recommends the Commission grant the waivers listed in Kingdom's <u>Application</u>. Pursuant to Sections 392.185, 392.361.5 and 392.420, the Commission may waive the application of its rules and certain statutes if the Commission determines that waiver is consistent with the purposes of Chapter 392.

9. The Company did not submit a tariff with its <u>Application</u>. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.510(1)(C) the Company cannot lawfully provide service until tariffs are approved by the Commission.

10. The Company is not delinquent in the filing of its annual report, the payment of its PSC assessment, or the remittance of either the MoUSF or Relay Missouri surcharges.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission issue an Order (1) granting Kingdom Telecommunications, Inc. a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services; (2) granting the Company a certificate of service authority to provide non-switched local exchange telecommunications services, subject to the conditions named herein; (3) granting the Company the requested competitive classification and requested waivers listed in the Company's <u>Application</u>; (4) indicating that unless exercised within one year from its issuance that any authority conferred by a certificate of service authority shall be null and void; and (5) requiring the Company to have an effective tariff on file prior to providing telecommunications services in the State of Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eric Dearmont

Eric Dearmont Assistant General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 60892

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## **<u>Certificate of Service</u>**

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 9th day of December, 2009.

/s/ Eric Dearmont

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:	Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File Case No: LA-2010-0144
	Applicant: Kingdom Telecommunications, Inc.
From:	Sara Buyak
	Telecommunications Department
	William Voight 12/9/09
	Utility Operations Division/Date
Subject:	Staff Recommendation for Approval of Certificate and/or Initial Tariff
Date: Filing Deadline:	December 9, 2010 December 10, 2010

The Telecommunications Department Staff (Staff) recommends the applicant be granted the following certificate(s), as indicated below, to be effective on the same date the tariff becomes effective:

certificate to provide basic local exchange telecommunications services in the following service areas.

All of AT&T Missouri
All of Embarq
All of CenturyTel
All of Spectra
Other \_\_\_\_\_(please describe)

 $\boxtimes$  certificate to provide interexchange telecommunications services.

certificate to provide local exchange telecommunications services.\*

\*local exchange authority should be restricted to dedicated, private line services.

Staff recommends the applicant and its services receive competitive classification. Staff further recommends a Commission order granting certification state that pursuant to Section 392.410 RSMo, unless exercised within a period of one year from the issuance thereof, authority conferred by a certificate of service authority shall be null and void. In addition, Staff recommends approval of the waivers listed in the Notice.

Granting a certificate to provide basic local exchange telecommunications services should be based on the following two conditions:

- 1. The applicant's originating and terminating access rates shall not exceed the access rates of the incumbent local exchange company against whom the applicant is competing pursuant to Sections 392.361.6 and 392.370 RSMo.
- 2. If the directly competing ILEC, in whose service area the applicant is operating, decreases its originating and/or terminating access service rates, the applicant shall file an appropriate tariff amendment to reduce its originating and/or terminating access rates in the directly competing ILEC's service area

within 30 days of the directly competing ILEC's reduction of its originating and/or terminating access rates in order to maintain the cap.

No objection to tariff taking effect (Insert MO PSC number.) Effective Date: The Staff states that the tariff meets the requirements of all applicable statutes, specifically, one or more of the following: Sections 392.200(8), (12); 392.455(3), (4); 392.515(1) and 392.500(2) RSMo. In addition, the tariff filing does not conflict with the following Commission rules: 4 CSR 240-3.545 (4), (6), (7), (8 C,G,H), (9), (15), (16), (19); 4 CSR 240-31.065(1), (2), (3); 4 CSR 240-32.150(5), 32.160(1), (2), 32.190; 4 CSR 240-33.040(4), 33.045(2), 33.050(4) and 33.070(2).

Tariff was not submitted with application. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.510(1)(C), the applicant cannot lawfully provide service until tariffs are effective.

Additional Comments:

The Company is not delinquent in filing an annual report, paying the PSC assessment, MoUSF, and Relay Missouri.

The Company is delinquent. Staff recommends the Commission grant the requested relief/action on the condition the applicant corrects the delinquency. The applicant should be instructed to make the appropriate filing in this case after it has corrected the delinquency.

( No annual report Unpaid PSC assessment. Amount owed:

Unpaid MoUSF Unpaid Relay Missouri)

<b>Review Items for IXC, Non-switched Local and CLEC Certificate Applications</b> (as required by 4 CSR 240-2.060):		
$\mathbb{X}$	Proper Secretary of State authorization Statement of character of business performed. Statement declaring no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments Statement declaring no overdue annual reports/assessment fees Application includes an affidavit.	
	The applicant is requesting waivers of rules or statutes previously granted to a competitively classified company	
(as rec	uired by 392.430/.440): Application shows that grant of authority is in the public interest.	

Additional Review Items for CLEC Applications (as required by 392.455 and/or 4		
	CSR 240-3.510):	
	Possesses sufficient technical and managerial resources and abilities.	
	Possesses sufficient financial resources and abilities.	
	Statement that the applicant will satisfy the minimum standards established by the commission.	
	Identifies geographic area (no smaller than an exchange).	
	Statement that applicant will offer basic local service as a separate and distinct service.	
	Statement that applicant will give equitable access to all Missourians.	
Tariff Review Items (applicable for all competitively classified companies):		
	The tariff meets Staff's review for compliance with rules for competitive company tariff filings.	

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

In the Matter of the Application of ) Telephone Company Kingdom for ) Case No. Approval of an Interconnection Agreement ) )

LA-2010-0144

#### AFFIDAVIT OF Sara Buyak

STATE OF MISSOURI ) ) SS: COUNTY OF COLE )

Sara Buyak, employee of the Missouri Public Service Commission, being of lawful age and after being duly sworn, states that she has participated in preparing the accompanying Staff Recommendation, and that the facts therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

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Subscribed and affirmed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_ Uccenter 2009

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