

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

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern )  
Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri, for )  
Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection ) **File No. IK-2016-0108**  
Agreement under the Telecommunications )  
Act of 1996 )

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

1. On November 6, 2015, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri (“AT&T”) filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its Application for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement executed between it and Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc. and Ionex Communications, Inc. ( collectively, “Birch Telecom”).

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 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. AT&T is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange and

interexchange telecommunications company. Birch Telecom is certificated as a competitive local exchange telecommunications company.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff recommends the Commission approve the Application and direct the parties to submit to the Commission any 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

