

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

In the Matter of the Application of)	
New Florence Telephone Company for)	<u>File No. IK-2019-0105</u>
Approval of an Interconnection)	
Agreement)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

1. On October 16, 2018, New Florence Telephone Company ("New Florence") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") its *Application for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement* between itself and Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC ("Charter") under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act").

2. New Florence is a local exchange carrier operating in Missouri. New Florence is a Missouri corporation in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State. New Florence's annual reports and assessments are not overdue.

3. Charter is a basic local and interexchange carrier in Missouri. Charter is a foreign corporation in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State. Charter's annual reports and assessments are not overdue.

4. On October 17, 2018, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Intervention Deadline, and Making Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC a Party*. The Commission made Charter a party to the case, issued an intervention deadline of November 1, 2018, and ordered Staff to file a recommendation no later than November 16, 2018.

5. No parties have filed to intervene in this matter.

6. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(2) of the Act, 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.

7. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff hereby states that the Interconnection Agreement between New Florence and Charter 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 Agreement was filed with the Application.

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 14th day of November, 2018, to all counsel of record.

/s/Ron Irving