

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

In the Matter of the Application of FairPoint)	
Communications Missouri, Inc. for)	<u>File No. IK-2017-0177</u>
Approval of an Interconnection 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 December 19, 2016, FairPoint Communications Missouri, Inc. ("FairPoint") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its Application for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement executed between it and Comcast Phone of Missouri, LLC d/b/a/ Comcast Digital Phone ("Comcast").

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 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 Agreement was filed with the Application. FairPoint is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company. Comcast is certificated as a competitive local exchange and interexchange 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 28th day of December, 2016.

