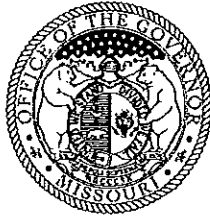


## RULE TRANSMITTAL

SEP 05 2018

STATE CAPITOL  
201 W. CAPITOL AVENUE, ROOM 216  
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65101



(573) 751-3222  
WWW.GOVERNOR.MO.GOV

*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MISSOURI

August 30, 2018

Mr. Daniel Hall  
Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street  
PO Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: *Proposed Rulemaking*

Dear Daniel:

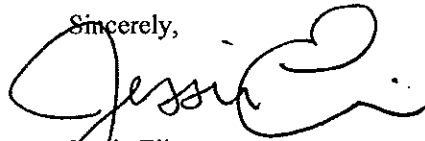
This office has received your proposed amendments, rules and rescissions for the regulations listed below.

- 4 CSR 240-28.010 – Definitions (proposed amendment)
- 4 CSR 240-31.010 – Definitions (proposed amendment)
- 4 CSR 240-28.011 – Certificate of Service Authority and/or Registration (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.012 – Annual Reports, Statements of Revenue, and Assessments (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.013 – Tariff Filings and Interconnection Agreements (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.014 – Network Configuration (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.015 – 211 Service (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.016 – Telephone Numbering (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.011 – Missouri USF Administration (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.012 – Missouri USF Assessment (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.013 – Missouri USF High Cost Support (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.014 – Lifeline and Disabled Programs (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.015 – ETC Requirements (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-31.016 – ETC Application Requirements (proposed rule)
- 4 CSR 240-28.020 – General Provisions (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.030 – Certification or Registration Requirements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.040 – Reporting Requirements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.050 – Assessment Requirements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.060 – Service Requirements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.070 – Tariffs (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.080 – Interconnection Agreements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-28.090 – 211 Service (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.020 – Organization, Powers, and Meetings of the Board (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.030 – The MoUSFA (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.040 – Eligibility for Funding – High Cost Areas (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.060 – The MoUSF Assessment (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.090 – Disbursement of MoUSF Funds (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.100 – Review Procedures for Support Payments (proposed rescissions)

- 4 CSR 240-31.110 – Review of Board and MoUSFA Activities (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-31.120 – Lifeline Programs and Disabled Programs (proposed rescissions)
- 4 CSR 240-31.130 – Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Requirements (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.010 – General Provisions (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.020 – Definitions (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.030 – Thousands-Block Number Pooling (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.040 – Request for Review of the Decisions of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator or the Thousands-Block Pooling Administrator (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.050 – Reclamation (proposed rescission)
- 4 CSR 240-37.060 – Reporting Requirements (proposed rescission)

Executive Order 17-03 requires this office's approval before state agencies release proposed regulations for notice and comment, amend existing regulations, rescind regulations, or adopt new regulations. After our review of this rulemaking, we approve the submission of these amendments, rules and rescissions to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,



Jessie Eiler  
Deputy Counsel



Commissioners

DANIEL Y. HALL  
Chairman

WILLIAM P. KENNEY

SCOTT T. RUPP

MAIDA J. COLEMAN

RYAN A. SILVEY

## *Missouri Public Service Commission*

POST OFFICE BOX 360  
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102  
573-751-3234  
573-751-1847 (Fax Number)  
<http://psc.mo.gov>

SHELLEY BRUEGGEMANN  
General Counsel

MORRIS WOODRUFF  
Secretary

LOYD WILSON  
Director of Administration

NATELLE DIETRICH  
Staff Director

John Ashcroft  
Secretary of State  
Administrative Rules Division  
600 West Main Street  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: 4 CSR 240-31.013 Missouri USF High Cost Support

Dear Secretary Ashcroft,

### CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

I do hereby certify that the attached is an accurate and complete copy of the order of rulemaking lawfully submitted by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Statutory Authority: sections 392.200.2, 392.248, and 392.470.1, RSMo 2016.

If there are any questions regarding the content of this order of rulemaking, please contact:

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-2849  
[Morris.woodruff@psc.mo.gov](mailto:Morris.woodruff@psc.mo.gov)

Morris L. Woodruff  
Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Enclosures

**Title 4 – DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Division 240 – Public Service Commission  
Chapter 31 – Universal Service**

**ORDER OF RULEMAKING**

By the authority vested in the Public Service Commission under sections 392.200.2, 392.248, and 392.470.1 RSMo 2016, the commission withdraws a rule as follows:

**4 CSR 240-31.013 Missouri USF High Cost Support is withdrawn.**

A notice of proposed rulemaking containing the text of the proposed rule was published in the *Missouri Register* on May 15, 2018 (43 MoReg 997). The proposed rule is withdrawn.

**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:** The public comment period ended July 2, 2018, and the commission held a public hearing on the proposed rule on July 9, 2018. The commission received timely written comments from AT&T, Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association (MCTA), CenturyLink, Windstream Missouri, Verizon, the Small Telephone Company Group and Missouri Independent Telephone Company Group (STCG), the Missouri Telecommunications Industry Association (MTIA), and the staff of the commission. Whitney Payne, representing the commission's staff; Richard Telthorst, on behalf of MTIA; Brian McCartney, representing STCG; and Craig Johnson representing Chariton Valley Communications, appeared at the hearing and offered comments.

**COMMENT #1:** Proposed section 31.013(1) contains new provisions to expand the reach of high cost support to address concerns about customers facing high construction charges to have telecommunications facilities extended to provide landline service. STCG, AT&T, CenturyLink contend the commission lacks statutory authority to expand the high cost support program in this manner.

**RESPONSE AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGE:** The commission agrees it lacks statutory authority to implement this new program and will remove proposed section 31.013(1).

**COMMENT #2:** The proposed revision of 31.013(2) would permit funding under the Missouri high cost program for facilities to deploy retail broadband service. MCTA, AT&T, Verizon, and CenturyLink oppose that proposed expansion as exceeding the commission's statutory authority. Further, they warn that state regulation in this area would be preempted by federal regulation from the Federal Communications Commission.

**RESPONSE AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGE:** While the expansion of broadband internet access service to areas that are currently underserved is an important policy goal, the commission determines its statutory authority to permit funding under the Missouri high cost program for broadband services is unclear. Section 31.013(2) will be removed from the rule. Since both aspects of this rule will be removed, the proposed rule will be withdrawn.