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March 31, 2000

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Director, Utility Services

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Director, Administration

DALE HARDY ROBERTS
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Case No. TO-2000-526

FILED²
MAR 31 2000
Missouri Public
Service Commission

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and fourteen (14) conformed copies of a **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Nathan Williams
Assistant General Counsel
(573) 751-8702
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

NW/lb
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

MAR 31 2000

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

In the Matter of the Application of GTE)
Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas)
Incorporated for Approval of)
Interconnection Agreement with Universal)
Telecom, Inc. Pursuant to Section 252(e))
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Case No. TO-2000-526

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and for its recommendation states:

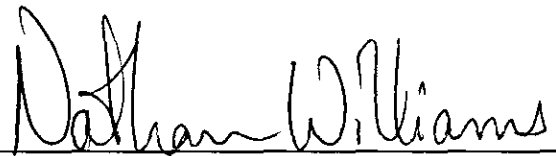
1. In the attached Memorandum, which is labeled Appendix A, the Staff recommends that the Missouri Public Service Commission grant approval of the Interconnection Agreement between Universal Telecom, Inc. and GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated, filed on February 25, 2000.

2. The terms of the interconnection agreement do not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers not a party to the Agreement and do not appear to be against the public interest, convenience, or necessity. Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e), the Commission is to approve a negotiated interconnection agreement unless the terms of the agreement discriminate against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the Agreement or implementation of the agreement or any portion thereof is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

WHEREFORE, because the terms set forth in this agreement satisfy the standard set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 252(e) in that they do not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers not a party to the Agreement and do not appear to be against the public interest, convenience, or necessity, the Staff recommends the Commission enter an Order Approving Interconnection Agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

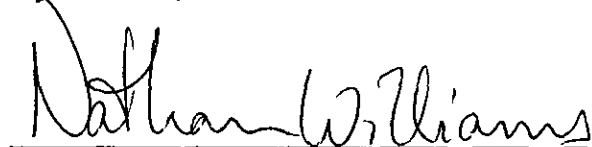


Nathan Williams
Assistant General Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 35512

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Missouri Public Service Commission
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 31st day of March, 2000.



MEMORANDUM

To: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. TO-2000-526
Parties: GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated
with Universal Telecom, Inc.

From: Tom Solt, Telecommunications Department

[Signature] 3/30/00
Utility Operations Division/Date

Wm K Haas 3/30/00
General Counsel Office/Date

NW 3/30/00

Subject: Staff Recommendation for Approval of Interconnection Agreement

Date: March 29, 2000

Date Filed: 2/25/00

Staff Deadline: 4/25/00

RECEIVED
MAR 30 2000
JCR 1:00
COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The Telecommunications Department Staff (Staff) recommends the Parties be granted approval of the submitted (may check more than one)

- ☒ Resale Agreement
- ☐ Facilities-based Interconnection Agreement
- ☐ Wireless Interconnection Agreement

The Parties submitted the proposed Agreement to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) pursuant to the terms of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act). Staff has reviewed the proposed Agreement and believes it meets the limited requirements of the Act. Specifically, the Agreement: 1) does not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers not party to the Agreement and 2) does not appear to be against the public interest, convenience or necessity.

Is there an attachment to this recommendation indicating any recommendations or special considerations? ☐ Yes ☒ No

From	Initials	Date	Revised
Tom Solt	tas	Mar. 29, 2000	
Wm. Voight	<i>BW</i>	<i>3-30-00</i>	
Mr. VanEschen			
Mr. Henderson			
Legal	<i>W.K.H.</i>	<i>3/30/00</i>	

Interconnection Agreement Review Items

- ☒ No applications to intervene filed
- ☒ Terms and rates in Agreement similar to those contained in approved Interconnection Agreement, i.e., TO-99-307
- ☒ Agreement signed by both Parties

Staff recommends the Commission direct the Parties to submit any modifications or amendments.

**Service List for
Case No. TO-2000-526
March 31, 2000**

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