

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

In the Matter of the Interconnection Agreement)	
by and between Vero Fiber Networks, LLC and)	
Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink,)	<u>File No. TK-2019-0393</u>
Pursuant to Sections 251 and 252)	
of 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 June 14, 2019, Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its *Application of CenturyLink for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement* between itself and Vero Fiber Networks, LLC.

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. Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange carrier. Vero Fiber Networks, LLC is certificated with the Commission as a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier and a registered Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol provider.

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/ Whitney Payne

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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 27th day of June, 2019, to all counsel of record.

/s/Whitney Payne