# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission,	)
Complainant,	) )
V.	)
	) <u>Case No. TC-2018-0282</u>
PhoneHost Communications, LLC,	)
	)
Respondents.	)

## **STAFF REPLY**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Reply* in this matter hereby states:

1. Staff filed a *Complaint* against PhoneHost Communications, LLC, based on communications had with Kennis Mann of PowerComm Broadband, LLC, d/b/a New Dawn Fiber and Mr. Mann's attorney Linda Dickens. Staff also spoke with Janet Blauvelt, registered agent for PhoneHost Communications, LLC, regarding PowerComm Broadband, LLC, d/b/a New Dawn Fiber. Ms. Blauvelt in that conversation expressed awareness of PowerComm Broadband, LLC, d/b/a New Dawn Fiber and its owner,

Mr. Mann.

2. Based on conversations had with Mr. Mann and Ms. Dickens, Staff came to the understanding that PhoneHost Communications, LLC, had a business relationship with PowerComm Broadband, LLC, d/b/a New Dawn Fiber, specifically in the area of telecommunications services. Staff also learned PhoneHost Communications, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the Missouri Secretary of State

August 29, 2017, stating the purpose of its organization as, "to provide communications services." As PhoneHost Communications, LLC, does not have a proper certificate of convenience and necessity with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Staff filed a *Complaint* against it requesting the Commission order the Company to obtain a certificate and for the Commission to seek penalties for offering services without proper certification.

- 3. Since filing its *Complaint* Staff has spoken again to Ms. Blauvelt at which time she denied PhoneHost Communications, LLC, provides telecommunications services in Missouri or has any relationship with PowerComm Broadband, LLC, d/b/a New Dawn Fiber. Staff also read the *Response* Ms. Blauvelt filed on behalf of PhoneHost Communications, LLC, stating the Company's does not provide telecommunications services or pursue other activities in the state of Missouri. Staff issued data requests (DR) to PhoneHost Communications, LLC, to verify certain of this alleged information. Responses to these DRs are due May 31, 2018.
- 4. Staff would ask that the Commission allow it to provide the results of its investigation in a pleading to be filed after the DR responses are provided by PhoneHost Communications, LLC, no sooner than July 16, 2018. Upon that filing, Staff asks that the Commission either make a determination on the pleadings as to whether or not it is proper for PhoneHost Communications, LLC, to obtain a certificate of convenience and necessity and whether it is proper to seek penalties against the Company, or in the alternative, to order a procedural conference to permit the parties to set a schedule for discovery and an evidentiary hearing.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept *Staff's Reply* as a true accounting of the events of this proceeding; permit Staff to file a report of its investigation after July 16, 2018; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

### /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 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018, to all counsel of record.

#### /s/Whitney Payne