

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

In Re: Interconnection Agreement By and Between)	
Neutral Tandem-Missouri, LLC and CenturyTel of)	
Missouri, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink and Spectra)	<u>File No. TK-2018-0128</u>
Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink)	
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 November 10, 2017, CenturyTel of Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and Spectra Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink ("CenturyLink") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its Application for Approval of a Negotiated Interconnection Agreement between it and Neutral Tandem-Missouri, LLC ("Neutral Tandem").

2. 47 USC 252(e)(2) provides that a state commission may only reject an interconnection or resale 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. CenturyLink is certificated with

the Commission as an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company. Neutral Tandem is a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier.

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,

/s/ Casi Aslin

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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 7th day of December, 2017.

/s/ Casi Aslin

