

MEMORANDUM

To: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No.: **CT-2005-0402** File No.: **YC-2005-0975**
Applicant: **Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc. (Birch)**

From: Arthur P. Kuss
Telecommunications Department

William L. Voight 05/11/05
Utility Operations Division/Date

/s/ William K. Haas 05/11/05
General Counsel's Office/Date

Subject: Staff Recommendation for approval of Expedited Treatment for Rate Increases

Date: May 11, 2005

Filing Deadline: N/A

On May 10, 2005, **Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc. (Birch)** filed tariff sheets for competitive local services proposing to increase certain rates, with a concurrent Motion for Expedited Treatment. Birch is a Competitively classified Local and Interexchange Carrier (CLEC/IXC). In its filing, the Company submitted revised tariff sheets with an effective date of May 15, 2005. Expedited treatment is requested to allow the new rates to become effective on the requested date.

The services affected include certain business and residential local and Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) services and packages. The various proposed rate increases range from approximately 1% to approximately 23%.

In support of this filing, Birch has provided *pro forma* copies of the bill message texts previously submitted to business and residential customers as notification of rate increases.

Staff has reviewed the Company's filing and recommends Commission expedited treatment and approval. Staff is not aware of any filing that affects, or is affected by, this filing.

- ☒ The Company is not delinquent in filing an annual report or paying the PSC assessment.
☐ The Company is delinquent.
☐ No annual report. ☐ Unpaid PSC assessment. Amount owed: _____