

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

In the Matter of the Application for Approval of an	)	
Interconnection Agreement by and between	)	
Simwood Inc. and Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a	)	<b><u>File No. TK-2022-0199</u></b>
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 January 26, 2022, Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (“Embarq Missouri”) filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its Application for Approval of a negotiated Interconnection Agreement with Simwood Inc. under provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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 Amendment to 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 is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange carrier. Simwood Inc. is certificated with the Commission as a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier and is registered to provide IVoIP service.

**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/ Don Cospers**

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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 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022, to all counsel of record.

**/s/ Don Cospers**