BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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Socket Telecom, LLC,

Complainant

v.

Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink,

Respondent.

File No. TC-2020-0409

ORDER CANCELING DISCOVERY AND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Issue Date: April 8, 2021

Effective Date: April 8, 2021

On June 22, 2020, Socket Telecom, LLC (Socket) filed a complaint against Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (Embarq). On February 24, 2021, the Commission approved a procedural schedule including a hearing. On April 7, 2021, Socket, with the consent of Embarq and the Commission Staff, filed a motion to suspend discovery and the procedural schedule, including the hearing.

The motion stated that Socket and Embarq had resumed settlement discussions and, although a final agreement had not yet been reached, those parties expect that a complete settlement of the issues will be achieved. Socket and Embarq request that the Commission suspend all proceedings, including discovery, responses and objections to discovery, testimony, and pretrial matters, as well as postponement of the hearing and prehearing conference. Socket requests that the Commission direct the parties to report their negotiation status by June 1, 2021. The Commission will grant the motion.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The procedural schedule previously set by the Commission is suspended. All proceedings, including discovery, responses and objections to discovery, testimony, and pretrial matters, as well as the hearing and prehearing conference are canceled.

2. The parties shall report on the status of their negotiations no later than June 1, 2021.

3. This order is effective when issued.



Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 8th day of April, 2021.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary