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

In The Matter of Embarq Missouri, Inc.	)	
Application for Competitive Classification	)	Case No
Under Section 392.245.5 RSMo. (2005)	)	

#### APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION

COMES NOW Embarq Missouri, Inc. ("Embarq") and hereby requests the Commission approve Embarq's Application for Competitive Classification Under Section 392.245.5 RSMo. (2005). Embarq is seeking competitive classification for all business services, other than exchange access services, offered in its Lebanon exchange. In support of its Application, Embarq states as follows:

- 1. Embarq is a public utility, and a telecommunications company, as those terms are defined in Section 386.020(42) and (51), RSMo 2000. Embarq is a large incumbent local exchange telecommunications company and is subject to Price Cap Regulation under Section 392.245.
- 2. Missouri Revised Statutes §392.245.5 (2005) allows carriers subject to Price Cap Regulation to seek competitive classification for each telecommunications service offered to business and residential customers, other than exchange access service, in any exchange in which at least two non-affiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to customers within the exchange.
- 3. Embarq faces growing and intense business competition from two or more non-affiliated entities in its Lebanon exchange. More specifically, Embarq faces competition from

numerous non-affiliated wireless providers and from wireline carriers using their own facilities, in whole or in part, to provide basic local telecommunications services.

- 4. Embarq has numerous non-affiliated wireless providers operating in its Lebanon exchange providing local service. Exhibit A identifies the following wireless carriers providing local service to customers in Embarq's Lebanon exchange: Sprint Nextel, Cingular, Verizon, Alltel, T-Mobile, and US Cellular (see Exhibit A). Section 392.245.5(1) RSMo. (2005) recognizes that commercial mobile service providers shall be considered as entities providing basic local telecommunications service, provided that only one such non-affiliated provider shall be considered as providing basic local telecommunications service within an exchange.
- 5. Section 392.245.5(2) RSMo (2005), recognizes wireline carriers providing local phone service in whole or in part over telecommunications facilities it owns as competing entities that providing basic local telecommunications services in competition with Embarq. In Embarq's Lebanon exchange, Fidelity Communications Services I ("Fidelity") offers local phone service to business customers in direct competition with Embarq in Embarq's Lebanon exchange. Fidelity obtained a Certificate to Provide Basic Local, Local Exchange, and Interexchange Telecommunications Services within Missouri, including the exchanges of Embarq, on November 30, 1999 (Case No. TA-2000-191). Embarq has experienced business customer loss to Fidelity in Lebanon. As evidenced by Fidelity's November 2006 press release (see Exhibit B), Fidelity is now offering business service to the following businesses in Lebanon: (1) Mid-Missouri Bank, (2) Mid-Missouri Investment Center, and (3) Mid-Missouri Insurance Agency. Embarq has experienced business access line losses of over 150 lines. Competitive designation would allow Embarq to compete more effectively in Lebanon by allowing it the

ability to offer business customers individual customer pricing, a pricing strategy currently available to Fidelity.

Embarq's Application for Competitive Classification does not request any price 6. changes. In fact, Embarq acknowledges that all rates currently in effect for these exchanges will remain in effect until such time Embarq files a tariff requesting a price change. Under current law, Embarq will be required to file tariffs for any future price changes, either increases or decreases, associated with these exchanges which will continue to require Commission approval. Furthermore, Embarq will be required to notify its customers of any future price increase.

WHEREFORE Embarq respectfully requests the Commission approve Embarq's Application for Competitive Classification pursuant to Section 392.245.5 RSMo (2005). Embarq has demonstrated that at least two non-affiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to business customers within its Lebanon exchange. Embarq's Application meets the statutory requirements for competitive classification and should become effective in no more than 30 days.

Respectfully submitted,

EMBARQ MISSOURI, INC.

MO Bar #32224

5454 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street

KSOPKJ0401

Overland, Park, KS 66211

Voice: 913-345-6193

Fax: 913-397-3598

Email: Linda.gardner@embarq.com

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Linda Gardner, an attorney and duly authorized representative of Embarq Missouri, Inc. hereby verify and affirm that I have read the foregoing Application for Competitive Classification and that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Linda K. Gardner

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 2 day of February 2007.

My Appointment Expires:



Lathry M Mehrer Notary Public

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February 2007, a copy of the above and foregoing document was served via electronic mail, facsimile or U.S. Mail, postage prepaid to each of the following:

William K. Haas
Deputy General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
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Lewis Mills
Office of the Public Counsel
P. O. Box 2200
Jefferson City, MO 65101
opcservice@ded.mo.gov

## <u>LIST OF EXHIBITS</u>

Exhibit A Wireless Carriers Operating in Embarq Exchanges

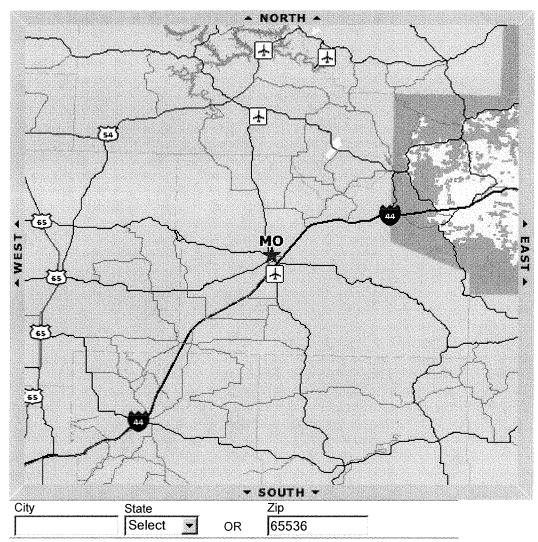
Exhibit B Fidelity Press Release

Exhibit C Embarq Proposed Tariff

## Exhibit A

Wireless Carriers Operating in EMBARQ Exchanges





Coverage Options View descriptions

#### America's Choice®

- C Initiated before 2/21/05
- C Initiated on or after 2/21/05
- National SingleRate<sup>sm</sup>
- INpulse<sup>sm</sup>/EasyPay
- C Verizon Wireless Network
- C NationalAccess & Enhanced Services
- ☐ BroadbandAccess & V CAST<sup>sm</sup>

Display Map

Search by Address   Search by Intersection Check if T-Mobile coverage is right for you with Personal Coverage Check  Prepaid coverage map > Learn more about T-Mobile's expanded coverage >  Signal Strength  Itt. Ott. Ott. Ott.	Street City State	lebanon MO 🐷	Zip	search clear
Zoom Out	XCCC			E

Mobile-to-mobile minutes and data services are not available in certain roaming areas included on T-Mobile's coverage maps.

[Th	
ri b	Prin

#### Map Legend

X Address Location

850 MHz Roaming Coverage

T-Mobile Roaming Coverage

T-Mobile HotSpot Display

Roaming HotSpot (Additional charges apply) Find a T-Mobile HotSpot >

This map predicts and approximates our wireless coverage area outdoors, which may vary from location to location and may change without notice. It may include locations with limited or no coverage. Our maps do not guarantee service availability. Even within a coverage area, there are several factors, such as: network changes, traffic volume, service outages, technical limitations, signal strength, your equipment, terrain, structures, foliage, weather, and other conditions that may interfere with actual service, quality, and availability, including the ability to make, receive, and maintain calls. Multi-band (850/1900 MHz) GSM/GPRS handset required for access to 850 Roaming Coverage. Ask a T-Mobile sales representative or visit <a href="https://www.t-mobile.com/morecoverage">www.t-mobile.com/morecoverage</a> for more information regarding handset requirements and T-Mobile 850 MHz coverage. 850 MHz roaming is offered through our roaming partners; some features (e.g. picture messaging, mobile to mobile) may not be available while roaming. Learn more



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Special Offers

**Business Services** 

About Us ¥

Customer Support #

#### U.S. Cellular Home

#### Products and Services

Plans

#### > Coverage Maps

Phones

Prepaid Service

**Business Services** 

Features

Special Offers

Accessories

**About Us** 

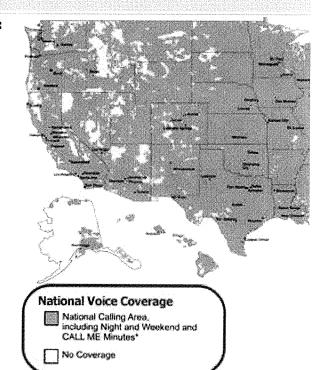
**Customer Support** 

## 4

### **COVERAGE MAPS**

#### Choose a coverage map:

- » National
- » Wide Area
- >> Mobile-to-Mobile
- >> SpeedTalk®
- » easyedge<sup>SM</sup> Download Service
- >> BlackBerry®
- » TalkTracker®
- » Wireless Modems



\*The map shows an approximation of service coverage. Actual coverage may vary. Service may be interrupted or limited due to customer equipment, or networklimitations. Coverage indoors may also vary. U.S. Cellular does not guarantee coverage. User charges at borders of calling areas.





Site Map

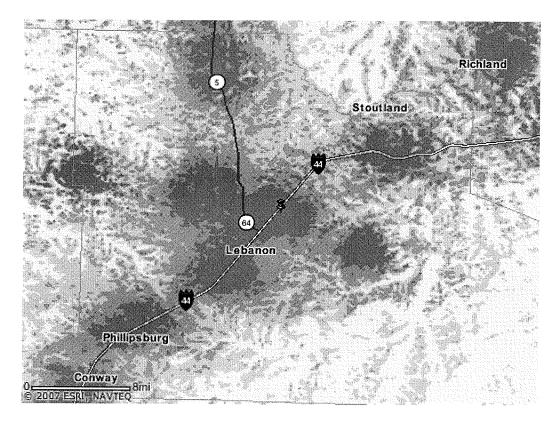
Privacy

Legal

| Contact Us

© 2006 U.S. Cellular.





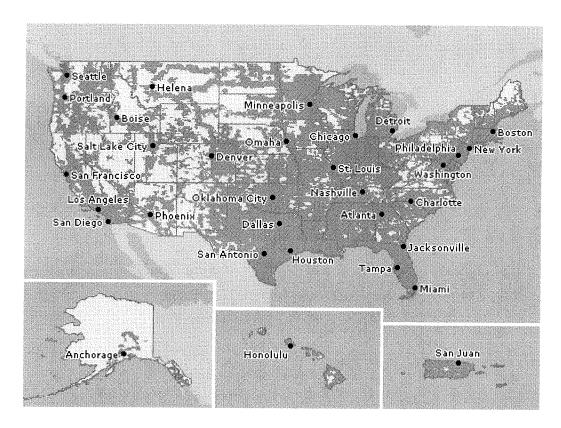
#### **Coverage Legend**



Coverage last updated on: December 31, 2006. Map depicts an approximation of coverage. Learn More

#### **Important Information About the Coverage Map**

Map may include areas served by unaffiliated carriers, and may depict their licensed area rather than an approximation of the coverage there. Actual coverage area may differ substantially from map graphics, and coverage may be affected by such things as terrain, weather, foliage, buildings and other construction, signal strength, customer equipment and other factors. Cingular does not guarantee coverage. Charges will be based on the location of the site receiving and transmitting the call, not the location of the subscriber.



#### **Coverage Legend**

Cingular National GSM Coverage

No Service Available

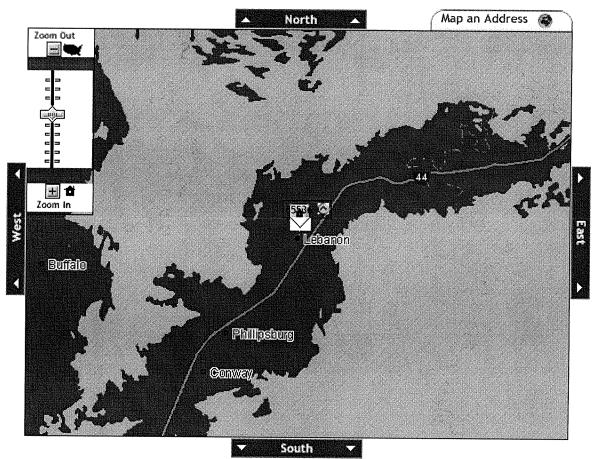
Coverage last updated on: December 31, 2006. Map depicts an approximation of coverage. Learn More

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## Sprint Nationwide Coverage

Re-center on last mapped address



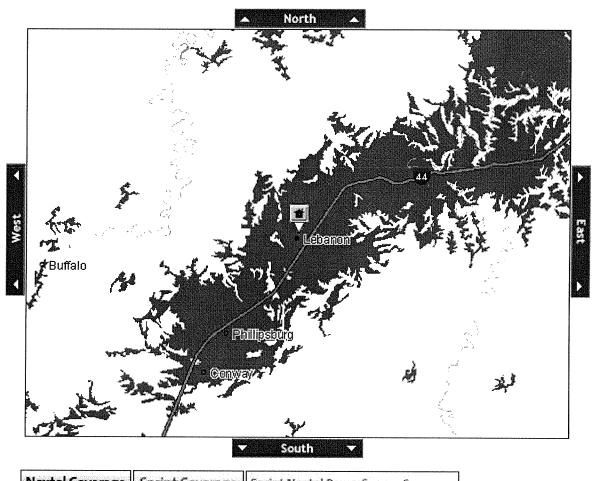
Nextel Coverage	Sprint Coverage	Sprint Next	tel PowerSpurce Coverage	
Nationwide Sprin	nt PCS Network lata service across the L	JS.	Sprint Power Vision <sup>SM</sup> Network  Live TV, music and more on the nation's largest m broadband network.	nobile
-	gital Voice Coverage	TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT	☑ Off-Network Analog Voice Coverage	
Expanded calling for digital dual-b	g coverage and voicemai pand or dual-band/tri-m	il access ode phones.	Expanded voice coverage for dual-band or band/tri-mode phones. available with Power Vision handsets.	dual- Not

## **Check Out Phones with Selected Capabilities**

Shop Online

## Sprint Nationwide Coverage

Re-center on last mapped address



Nextel Coverage | Sprint Coverage | Sprint Nextel PowerSource Coverage

Digital Cellular and Nationwide Nextel Walkie-Talkie Coverage Clear calls and instant walkie-talkie connections nationwide.

## Check Out Phones with Selected Capabilities

Shop Online

City names Major roads

Coverage Maps: These maps tell you where we estimate your wireless device will work. The specific network coverage

## **Exhibit B**Fidelity Press Release

#### FIDELITY COMMUNICATIONS CO.

#### Mid-Missouri Bank is Fidelity's First Lebanon Phone Customer

Mid-Missouri Bank was looking for local telephone service that featured good customer service at a reduced price. Fidelity Communications filled the bill.

After careful consideration, the bank switched to Fidelity from Embarq on August 8. "We feel we made the right decision," said Vice President Guylene Franklin. "We are extremely happy. We've had no problems at all."

She estimated Mid-Missouri is saving 37 to 40 percent on its phone service by using Fidelity. "We also researched other companies. When we checked Fidelity out, we got good comments and found good customer service," Franklin said. "That's very, very important to banks."

Mid-Missouri signed a two-year contract for local phone service, including E-911. That could expand to include long distance, ATMs and dedicated phone lines in the future. "We are open to expanding the service, but wanted to get our feet wet first," she said.

The bank has 15 facilities, located in Bolivar, Deepwater, El Dorado Springs, Joplin, Lebanon, Mount Vernon, Republic, Springfield, Stockton, Webb City, and Willard. "If the services do well here, we may present them to the other banks," she noted.

Fidelity, based in Sullivan, competes with Embarq for local phone customers in Rolla and will do the same in Lebanon in the coming months. Fidelity is the only local provider in Sullivan, Owensville, New Haven and Gerald and has been offering phone service since 1940.

On the day of the switchover, Fidelity technicians started working two hours before the bank open to minimize any business interruptions. More than 20 lines were ported, or switched, from Embarg to Fidelity before 9 a.m.

"The cutover went incredibly well," said Mark Diehl, Fidelity installation and repair supervisor. "We were pleased with how efficiently the switch was completed."

Franklin agreed. "Everything was on target," she said. A small glitch was quickly corrected and there was "really no downtime. We couldn't even tell we switched."

The lines that were switched included the Mid-Missouri Investment Center and the Mid-Missouri Insurance Agency located in the bank building. Franklin said the agency President, Gib Adkins, was impressed with Fidelity and made the switch as well.

Doing business with a local company was another consideration. Fidelity is currently rebuilding the Lebanon cable TV system it purchased in March and plans to offer phone service to more business customers, as well as residential customers, in the months ahead.

"I speak very highly of their people," she said. "Response time has been good and customer service has been excellent. If you have a problem, you don't want to wait for days or be put on hold. Fidelity has been very responsive to our needs."

For more information about Fidelity services available in Lebanon, call the local office at 588-7841.

Contact: Craig Montgomery Phone: 573-468-1294 Date: 11-14-2006

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# **Exhibit C**Embarq Proposed Tariff

#### **GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF**

Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Embarq

Fourth Revised Page 23 Cancels Third Revised Page 23

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE RATE GROUPS

#### X. COMPETITIVE EXCHANGES

The following exchanges are classified as competitive:

#### A. Residence

B.

Group A	Group B	
Jefferson City <sup>(3)</sup> Buckner <sup>(4)</sup> Lake Lotawana <sup>(4)</sup> Oak Grove <sup>(4)</sup> Odessa <sup>(4)</sup> Pleasant Hill <sup>(4)</sup>	Ferrelview <sup>(2)</sup> Kearney <sup>(1)</sup> Norborne <sup>(1)</sup> Platte City <sup>(2)</sup> Rolla <sup>(1)</sup> Weston <sup>(2)</sup>	(T)             
Business		
Group A	Group B	
Jefferson City <sup>(3)</sup> <b>Lebanon<sup>(5)</sup></b>	Ferrelview <sup>(2)</sup> Kearney <sup>(1)</sup> Norborne <sup>(1)</sup> Platte City <sup>(2)</sup> Rolla <sup>(1)</sup> St. Robert <sup>(2)</sup> Waynesville <sup>(2)</sup>	(T)               

(5)	Competitive Service Classification pursuant to Case No. XX-XXXX-XXXX, effective March 10, 2007.	(N) (N)
(4)	Competitive Service Classification pursuant to Case No. IO-2006-0551, effective July 31, 2006.	(T)
(3)	Competitive Service Classification pursuant to Case No. TO-2006-0375, effective May 1, 2006.	(T)
(2)	Competitive Service Classification pursuant to Case No. IO-2006-0092, effective August 28, 2005.	(T)
(1)	Competitive Service Classification pursuant to MO PSC Order of December 4, 2003, in Case No. IO-2003-0281.	(T)

ISSUED: February 8, 2007

BY: Darlene N. Terry Manager - Tariffs 5454 W. 110th Street Overland Park, KS 66211 EFFECTIVE: March 10, 2007