

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

In the Matter of the Application of GTech Fiber,)
LLC for its Designation as a Telecommunications)
Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal Service)
Support Pursuant to the Telecommunications)
Act of 1996)

File No. DA-2023-0077

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and submits its Recommendation as follows:

1. On August 17, 2022, GTech Fiber, LLC (“GTech” or “Company”) filed an Application for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) in order to receive federal Lifeline and state Lifeline and Disabled discounts.
2. The Company is registered in the state of Missouri as an interconnected voice over internet protocol (IVoIP) provider.
3. Commission rule 20 CSR4240-31.016 governs the specific ETC requirements that each applicant must meet. Staff conducted an investigation and has provided a memorandum attached to this pleading as Appendix A. Staff’s memorandum outlines the reasons why Staff believes GTech has met the requirements of 20 CSR 4240-31.016

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends that the Commission grant GTech Fiber, LLC statewide designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support and Missouri USF support to provide Lifeline and Disabled services in Missouri and that it grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ron Irving

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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 29th day of September, 2022, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Ron Irving

MEMORANDUM

To: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. DA-2023-0077

From: Kari Salsman, Senior Research/Data Analyst
Telecommunications Department

Subject: Staff's Recommendation to Approve GTech Fiber, LLC's Request for
ETC Designation

Date: September 29, 2022

On August 17, 2022 GTech Fiber, LLC (GTech) filed an application for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support and Missouri USF support on a statewide basis to participate in the Lifeline and Disabled programs. The company later supplemented its application. The company is registered by the Missouri Commission to provide IVoIP service.¹

Federal authority enables state commissions to grant ETC status to a company.² Missouri's ETC application requirements are contained in existing Missouri Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016. Staff reviewed the company's request for compliance with Missouri's rule as well as federal requirements. In Staff's opinion the company has adequately met all ETC application requirements. Consequently Staff supports the company's application for ETC status.

Staff recommends the Commission grant statewide ETC status to GTech Fiber, LLC for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support and Missouri USF support.

¹ Case No. CA-2020-0266. Name changed in Case No. DN-2022-0269.

² 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2) and FCC rule §54.201.