BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell)
Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri, for) File No. IK-2024-0038
Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection)
Agreement Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and for its *Staff Recommendation* respectfully states as follows:

- 1. On August 16, 2023, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Missouri ("AT&T Missouri"), filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission an *Application for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement* ("Application") between itself and Barr Tell USA, LLC ("Barr Tell"), under the provisions of Section 252(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2). In addition to the Interconnection Agreement, AT&T Missouri requested Commission approval of two (2) subsequently executed amendments.
- 2. On August 24, 2023, the Commission ordered Barr Tell be made a party to the case. The Commission further ordered that any party could intervene or request a hearing no later than September 8, 2023, and that Staff shall file its recommendation no later than September 23, 2023.
- 3. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2) (1996) provides that a state commission may reject an interconnection agreement only 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.

- 4. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2) outlines the Commission's filing requirement regarding interconnection agreements.
- 4. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff hereby states that the Interconnection Agreement and subsequent amendments do not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not a party to it, nor is its implementation inconsistent with the public interest, convenience or necessity.
- 6. Staff further states that the Application complies with the filing requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2).
- 5. As of the date of this filing, no entities have intervened or requested a hearing. Neither AT&T Missouri nor Barr Tell are delinquent in any required filings with the Commission.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission approve the Application and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Travis J. Pringle</u>

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were mailed, electronically mailed, or hand-delivered to all parties and/or all counsel(s) of record this 8th day of September, 2023.

/s/ Travis J. Pringle