

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

In the Matter of the Amendment to Interconnection)
Agreement between Southwestern Bell Telephone)
Company d/b/a AT&T Missouri and Preferred Long) **File No. IK-2024-0173**
Distance, Inc. d/b/a Telplex d/b/a Telplex)
Communications)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

1. On November 22, 2023, pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2)(B), Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri (“Company”) filed with the Public Service Commission its *Application for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement* between itself and Preferred Long Distance, Inc. d/b/a Telplex Communications (“Telplex”) under the provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

2. 47 USC 252(e)(2) (1996) provides that a state commission may reject an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation 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.

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. A copy of the Agreement was filed with the Application. The Company is an incumbent local exchange carrier and voice over internet protocol provider. Telplex is a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier.

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,

/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 26th day of December, 2023, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Ron Irving