

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application for Approval)
of an Interconnection Agreement between)
Lathrop Telephone Company d/b/a LTC) **File No. IK-2024-0234**
Networks and Level 3 Communications, LLC)

ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE, SETTING INTERVENTION DEADLINE, AND ADDING A PARTY

Issue Date: February 22, 2024

Effective Date: February 22, 2024

This order provides notice of this application to interested parties, establishes a deadline for intervention and for requesting a hearing, and joins the other party to the Interconnection Agreement, Level 3 Communications, LLC, as a party to this proceeding.

On February 22, 2024, Lathrop Telephone Company d/b/a LTC Networks (LTC) filed an application with the Commission for approval of a negotiated Interconnection Agreement (Agreement) with Level 3 Communications, LLC (Level 3) under the provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act). LTC stated that there are no unresolved issues and that the Agreement complies with Section 252(e) of the Act in that it is consistent with the public interest, convenient and necessary, and is not discriminatory to nonparty carriers.

LTC has also requested a waiver of the 60 day notice requirement for good cause shown,¹ having had no communication with the Commission within the prior 150 days regarding substantive issues likely to be in this case, other than those pleadings filed of record.

¹ 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D).

Although Level 3 is a party to the Agreement, it did not join in the application. Because Level 3 is a necessary party to a full and fair adjudication of this matter, the Commission will add Level 3 as a party to this case.

The Act provides that the Agreement must be approved unless the state commission finds that the Agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the Agreement, or that implementation of the Agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.² Section 252(e)(4) of the Act provides that if the Commission has not acted to approve or reject an Agreement within 90 days after submission, the Agreement shall be deemed approved. That date is May 22, 2024.

The Commission finds that proper persons shall be allowed 15 days from the issuance of this order to file a motion for hearing. The Commission also finds that notice of this application shall be sent to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies. The Staff of the Commission (Staff) will be directed to provide recommendation.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall send a copy of this order to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.
2. Level 3 is made a party to this case.
3. Any party wishing to intervene or request a hearing shall do so by filing a pleading no later than March 8, 2024.

² 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).

4. Staff shall file a recommendation advising either approval or rejection of this Agreement and giving the reasons therefor, or a status report regarding when Staff anticipates filing its recommendation, no later than March 25, 2024.

5. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Riley G. Fewell, Regulatory Law Judge
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 22nd day of February, 2024.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 22nd day of February 2024.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 22, 2024

File/Case No. IK-2024-0234

MO PSC Staff

Staff Counsel Department
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel
(OPC)**

Marc Poston
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opc@psc.mo.gov

Level 3 Communications, LLC

Legal Department
100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, LA 71203

LTC Networks

W England
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
trip@brydonlaw.com

LTC Networks

Brian McCartney
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
bmccartney@brydonlaw.com

MO PSC Staff

Ron Irving
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
ron.irving@psc.mo.gov

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
Secretary**

Distributed to all Interexchange and Local Exchange Telecommunications Companies.

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.