

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

In the Matter of the Amendment to the Interconnection)
Agreement between Southwestern Bell Telephone)
Company, LLC d/b/a AT&T Missouri and New Horizons)
Communications Corp., Adopting Previously Approved)
Amendments)

File No. IK-2027-0036

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through counsel, and submits its *Staff Recommendation* as follows:

1. On August 5, 2026, pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2)(B) and under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, LLC d/b/a AT&T Missouri (“AT&T”) filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) a letter requesting the Commission to adopt an amendment (“Amendment”) to AT&T’s Interconnection Agreement with New Horizons Communications Corp (“NHC”).¹ In the filed letter, AT&T notes that the Amendment is substantially the same in its terms and conditions as the amendment the Commission approved in Commission File No. IK-2026-0252.

2. On August 24, 2026, the Commission issued an order (“Order”) which added NHC as a party to this case; directed parties wishing to intervene to do so by September 8, 2026; directed the Commission’s Data Center to send a copy of the Order to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies; and directed Staff to file a *Staff Recommendation* or status report no later than September 23, 2026.

¹ The Telecommunications Act of 1996 is codified in relevant part as 47 U.S.C. § 252.

3. A copy of the Amendment was filed with AT&T's letter. AT&T is certified with the Commission as an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier ("ILEC") and is a registered Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol ("IVoIP") service provider. NHC is a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier ("CLEC") and an Interexchange Carrier ("IXC"). No entities have intervened or requested a hearing. In the filed letter, AT&T asserts it has complied with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1).

4. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A) (1996) provides that a state commission may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement (or any portion thereof) only if: 1) it discriminates against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement; or 2) the agreement's (or a portion of the agreement's) implementation is inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff hereby states that the Amendment does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not a party to it, nor is its implementation inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, or necessity. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Amendment.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's request, and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark Johnson

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 11th day of September 2026.

/s/ Mark Johnson