BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

| Application of Steelville Telephone |) | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|--|
| Exchange, Inc., for Approval of an |) | Case No. | |
| Interconnection Agreement |) | | |

APPLICATION OF STEELVILLE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

COMES NOW Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc. ("Steelville"), pursuant to Commission rule 4 CSR 240-28.080(1), and hereby files this Application for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Steelville and Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC ("Charter") under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act"). In support of this Application, Steelville states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

I. AGREEMENT REACHED

- 1. Steelville is a local exchange carrier operating in Missouri. Steelville is a Missouri corporation in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State. Steelville's annual reports and assessment fees are not overdue.
- 2. On September 7, 2018, after good faith negotiations, Steelville and Charter executed an Interconnection Agreement ("the Agreement") for the state of Missouri pursuant to the terms of the Federal Act (*see* Agreement, Attachment I). Pursuant to Commission rule 4 CSR 240-28.080 and the Act, Steelville hereby submits this Agreement for approval by the Commission.
- 3. The Agreement complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Federal Act because the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The Agreement consists of thirty-two (32)

pages and Attachments A, B, C, and D and an Appendix A. There are no outstanding issues between Steelville and Charter that need the assistance of mediation or arbitration.

II. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

4. Steelville seeks the Commission's approval of the Agreement, consistent with the provisions of the Federal Act and Missouri law. Steelville represents that the implementation of this negotiated and executed Agreement complies fully with Missouri law and Section 252(e) of the Federal Act because the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. Steelville respectfully requests that the Commission grant expeditious approval of this Agreement, without change, suspension or delay in its implementation. This is a bilateral agreement, reached as a result of negotiations and compromise between the parties. Correspondence, orders and decisions in this matter should be addressed to:

Don Santhuff
Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc.
P.O. Box 370
61 East Highway 8
Steelville, MO 65565
santhuff@misn.com

Charter Communications, Inc. ATTN: Legal Department 12405 Powerscourt Drive St. Louis, MO 63131

Charles A. Hudak, Esq. Friend, Hudak & Harris, LLP Three Ravinia Drive, Suite 1700 Atlanta, GA 30346 W.R. England, III/Brian T. McCartney Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C. P.O. Box 456 312 East Capital Avenue Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456 bmccartney@brydonlaw.com

Charter Communications, Inc. ATTN: Carrier Relations – Regulatory 12405 Powerscourt Drive St. Louis, MO 63131

III. COMMISSION AUTHORITY

5. Under the Act, the Commission has the authority to grant the relief requested by Steelville. Specifically, Section 252(a) of the Act provides:

(a) AGREEMENTS ARRIVED AT THROUGH NEGOTIONS

(1) VOLUNTARY NEGOTIATIONS. – Upon receiving a request for interconnection, services, or network elements pursuant to section 251, an incumbent local exchange carrier may negotiate and enter into a binding agreement with the requesting telecommunications carrier or carriers without regard to the standards set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 251. The agreement shall include a detailed schedule of itemized charges for interconnection and each service or network element included in the agreement. The agreement, including any interconnection agreement negotiated before the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, shall be submitted to the State commission under subsection (e) of this section.

IV. STANDARD OF REVIEW

Under Section 252 of the Act, the Commission has the authority to approve an agreement negotiated between an incumbent local exchange company (ILEC) and other telecommunications carriers. The Commission may only reject an agreement if the agreement is discriminatory to a nonparty or is inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Section 252(e)(2) of the Act provides as follows:

GROUNDS FOR REJECTION. – The State Commission may only reject –

- (A) an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation under subsection (a) if it finds that
 - (i) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or
 - (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity;

Steelville states that the Agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the Agreement. Steelville further states that implementation of the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

V. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, Steelville respectfully requests the Commission to issue an Order that:

- (1) approves expeditiously the Interconnection Agreement between Steelville and Charter, and
- (2) grants such other relief as is reasonable in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ William R. England, III

W.R. England, III Mo. #23975
Brian T. McCartney Mo. #47788
BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.
312 East Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456
trip@brydonlaw.com
bmccartney@brydonlaw.com

(573) 635-7166 (573) 634-7431 (FAX)

Attorneys for Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this document was served to the following parties on this 18th day of September, 2018:

General Counsel Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Charter Communications, Inc. ATTN: Legal Department 12405 Powerscourt Drive St. Louis, MO 63131

Charles A. Hudak, Esq. Friend, Hudak & Harris, LLP Three Ravinia Drive, Suite 1700 Atlanta, GA 30346 Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Charter Communications, Inc. ATTN: Carrier Relations – Regulatory 12405 Powerscourt Drive St. Louis, MO 63131

|--|

VERIFICATION

| COUNTY OF CRAWFORD |) |
|--------------------|-------|
| |) ss. |
| STATE OF MISSOURI |) |

I, Don Santhuff, being duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am over twenty-one, sound of mind, and am authorized to act on behalf of Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc., regarding the foregoing document. I have read it and verify that the facts contained in it are true and correct according to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Don Santhuff

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 17th day of September, 2018.

JEANIE LYNN MILES
Notary Public - Notary Seal
STATE OF MISSOURI
Commissioned for Crawford County
My Commission Expires: December 29, 2021
ID #13486723

Notary Public