# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Application of Kingdom Telephone	)		
Company for Approval of an	)	Case No.	
Interconnection Agreement	)		

## APPLICATION OF KINGDOM TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

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

## I. AGREEMENT REACHED

- 1. Kingdom is a local exchange carrier operating in Missouri. Kingdom is a Missouri corporation in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State. Kingdom's annual reports and assessment fees are not overdue.
- 2. On September 20, 2018, after good faith negotiations, Kingdom 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, Kingdom 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-one (31)

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

## II. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

4. Kingdom seeks the Commission's approval of the Agreement, consistent with the provisions of the Federal Act and Missouri law. Kingdom 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. Kingdom 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:

Renée Reeter Kingdom Telephone Company P.O. Box 97 211 South Main Auxvasse, MO 65231 rreeter@kingdomtelco.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 Kingdom. 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;

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

#### V. CONCLUSION

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ William R. England, III

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Attorneys for Kingdom Telephone Company

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this document was served to the following parties on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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

\_/s/ William R. England, III

## **VERIFICATION**

COUNTY O	F CALLAW	,				
STATE OF N	MISSOURI	) ss. )				
of mind, and foregoing doo	am authoriz cument. I ha	ed to act on behalf	f of Kingdom Tele ify that the facts c	phone Compa ontained in it	er twenty-one, sou any regarding the are true and correc	
			Renée Reeter	A.	<del>.</del>	
Sworn and su	bscribed to	before me this4	day of Octob	er, 2018.		
. S	NOTARY SEAL E	KELLY JO POLSTON My Commission Expires December 29, 2019	Notary Public	y 9	Polsh	

Audrain County Commission #15256450