BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Application for Approval of an)	
Interconnection Agreement Between)	
BPS Telephone Company and)	File No. IK-2022-0041
Teleport Communications America, LLC	j	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

- 1. On August 13, 2021, BPS Telephone Company filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission its *Application for Approval of Interconnection Agreement and Request for Waiver of 20 CSR 4240-4.017* between itself and Teleport Communications America, LLC.
- 2. 47 USC 252(e)(2) provides that a state commission may only reject an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation 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 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 Amendment was filed with the *Application*. BPS Telephone Company is certificated with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange carrier. Teleport Communications America, LLC, is certificated with the Commission as 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 in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Whitney Payne

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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 1st day of September, 2021, to all counsel of record.

/s/Whitney Payne