

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application for Approval of an )  
Interconnection Agreement Between Embarq )  
Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, and Peerless )  
Network of Missouri, LLC Pursuant to the )  
Telecommunications Act of 1996 )

**File No. IK-2023-0268**

## ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE, SETTING INTERVENTION DEADLINE, AND MAKING PEERLESS NETWORK OF MISSOURI, LLC A PARTY

Issue Date: March 8, 2023

Effective Date: March 8, 2023

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, Peerless Network of Missouri, LLC, as a party to this proceeding.

On February 21, 2023, Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, filed an application with the Commission for approval of an amendment to a negotiated Interconnection Agreement with Peerless Network of Missouri, LLC under the provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. CenturyLink states 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.

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

The Act provides that an Interconnection or Resale 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.<sup>1</sup> 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. 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 COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Commission's Data Center shall send notice to all interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies.
2. Peerless Network of Missouri, LLC 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 23, 2023.
4. The Staff of the Commission shall file a recommendation advising either approval or rejection of this Agreement and giving the reasons therefor no later than April 7, 2023.
5. This order shall be effective when issued.

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<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).



**BY THE COMMISSION**

*Nancy Dippell*

Nancy Dippell  
Secretary

Nancy Dippell, Chief Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.

**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 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.**



*Nancy Dippell*  
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**Nancy Dippell**  
**Secretary**

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**March 8, 2023**

**File/Case No. IK-2023-0268**

**Missouri Public Service  
Commission**

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**Peerless Network of Missouri,  
LLC**

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***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.**

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