# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Application for Approval of an Amendment to the	)		
Interconnection Agreement between Brightspeed of	)		
Missouri, LLC f/k/a CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC,	)	Docket No.	
and Charter Fiberlink - Missouri, LLC Pursuant to the	)		
Telecommunications Act of 1996	)		

# APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

COMES NOW, Brightspeed of Missouri, LLC f/k/a CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, ("Brightspeed") and files this Application for Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement ("Amendment") between Brightspeed and Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC ("Charter") pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Federal Act"). In support of its Application, Brightspeed states the following:

# I. APPLICANT

Brightspeed is a Missouri corporation with offices at 1120 South Tryon Street, Suite 700, Charlotte, NC 28203. Brightspeed is authorized to transact business within the State of Missouri and is authorized by the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") to provide basic local and interexchange telecommunications service within the state.

To Brightspeed's knowledge, there are no overdue assessments or annual reports or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it involving customer service or rates occurring within the last three years.

# II. <u>INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT</u>

Brightspeed presents to the Commission the attached Amendment for approval pursuant to the terms of the Federal Act. The implementation of the Amendment complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Act because the Amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience and

necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The Amendment promotes diversity in providers and increases customer choice for telecommunications services.

### III. STANDARD OF REVIEW

The statutory standard of review under Section 252(e) of the Federal Act states:

- (e) Approval by State Commission.
  - (1) Approval Required. Any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration shall be submitted for approval to the State commission. A State commission to which an agreement is submitted shall approve or reject the agreement with written findings as to any deficiencies.
  - (2) 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.

# IV. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Brightspeed seeks the Commission's approval of the Amendment, consistent with the provisions of the Act. The Amendment is bilateral, reached as a result of negotiation and compromise between the parties. There are no outstanding issues involving the limited subject matter of the Amendment that require the assistance of mediation or arbitration. Brightspeed and Charter do not believe a docket or intervention by other parties is necessary or appropriate.

Brightspeed requests that the Commission grant expeditious approval of the Amendment, without change, suspension or other delay in its implementation.

# V. <u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>

In addition to undersigned counsel, all communications regarding this Application should be addressed to the following representatives:

# **Brightspeed:**

Legal Department / Regulatory Notices P.O. Box 1330 Fayetteville, NC 28302-1330 Phone: 833-692-7773 carrieragreements@brightspeed.com

# **Charter:**

Charter Communications, Inc.
Attn: Legal Department – Telephone
12405 Powerscourt Drive
St Louis, Missouri 63131
Michael.Moore@charter.com

and copy to: Charles A. Hudak, Esq. Friend, Hudak & Harris, LLP Three Ravinia Drive, Suite 1700 Atlanta, Georgia 30346 chudak@fh2.com

# VI. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Brightspeed respectfully requests that the Commission enter an Order approving this Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Brightspeed and Charter.

Respectfully,

#### /s/ Tim Opitz

Tim Opitz, Mo. Bar No. 65082 Opitz Law Firm, LLC 308 E. High Street, Suite B101 Jefferson City, MO 65101 (573) 825-1796 Tim.opitz@opitzlawfirm.com

# **REQUEST FOR WAIVER**

By signing this form, I hereby certify that neither I, nor any other members of this filing party, has had communications with a Commissioner, Commissioner Advisor, Regulatory Law Judge, or any member of their support team in the one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the filing date of this application regarding any substantive issue included in this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

# /s/ Tim Opitz

Tim Opitz, Mo. Bar No. 65082 Opitz Law Firm, LLC 308 E. High Street, Suite B101 Jefferson City, MO 65101 (572) 825-1796 Tim.opitz@opitzlawfirm.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this  $7^{th}$  day of April 2023, a copy of the above and foregoing Application of Brightspeed for Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement was served via email and/or U.S. Mail to each of the following:

#### Office of the Public Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 opcservice@ded.mo.gov

# Office of the General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

### **Brightspeed:**

Legal Department / Regulatory Notices P.O. Box 1330 Fayetteville, NC 28302-1330 Phone: 833-692-7773 carrieragreements@brightspeed.com

#### **Charter:**

Charter Communications, Inc. Attn: Legal Department – Telephone 12405 Powerscourt Drive St Louis, Missouri 63131 Michael.Moore@charter.com

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