

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Telecom of)
Missouri, Inc. d/b/a NOW Communications as an)
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of)
Missouri for the Limited Purpose of Offering Lifeline)
Service to Qualified Households)

File No. TA-2013-0314

**ORDER DIRECTING STAFF
TO FILE STATUS UPDATE**

Issue Date: December 10, 2012

Effective Date: December 10, 2012

On November 29, 2012, Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc. d/b/a NOW Communications filed an application seeking designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in order to provide Lifeline Services to qualified households.

The Commission will direct the Staff of the Commission to file a statement informing the Commission of a date by which Staff will file its Recommendation.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Staff of the Commission shall file a statement, no later than December 17, 2012, informing the Commission of a date by which Staff will file its Recommendation.

2. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Reed', is positioned above the printed name.

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Kennard L. Jones, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 10th day of December, 2012.