

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

In Re: Interconnection Agreement by and between)
Teleport Communications America, LLC and)
Embarq Missouri, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink) **File No. TK-2015-0189**
Pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

1. On February 6, 2015, Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (“CenturyLink”) filed an application with the Commission for approval of an interconnection agreement with Teleport Communications of America, LLC (“Teleport”) under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. CenturyLink states that the agreement complies with Section 252(e) of the Act in that it is consistent with public interest, convenience and necessity, and not discriminatory to nonparty carriers. CenturyLink is a certificated Incumbent Local Exchange Telecommunications Company; Teleport is a certificated Competitive Local Exchange and Interexchange Telecommunications Company.

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, the Staff herein 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.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends the Commission approve the Application and direct the parties to submit to the Commission any subsequent modifications or amendments to the Interconnection Agreement.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 20th day of February, 2015.

