

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

In the Matter of the Application of Embarq Missouri,)
Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink for Approval of the Carrier)
Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider)
Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement) **File No. TK-2017-0102**
Between Level 3 Communications, LLC and)
Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink)
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 October 7, 2016, Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (“CenturyLink”) filed an application with the Commission for approval of an amendment to an interconnection agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC (“Level 3”) under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. CenturyLink states that the amendment 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; Level 3 is a certificated Competitive Local Exchange 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 Amendment to 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,



Colleen M. Dale
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 31624
Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-4255 (Telephone)
cully.dale@psc.mo.gov

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 21st day of October, 2016.

