### THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:

Andrew J. French, Chairperson Dwight D. Keen Annie Kuether

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In the Matter of Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company Filing Revisions to its General Exchange Tariff, Business Access Line and Package Increases.

Docket No. 24-FCMT-444-TAR

# SUSPENSION ORDER: AUGUST 12, 2024

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State

of Kansas ("Commission") for consideration and decision. Having reviewed its files and records,

and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following findings:

## I. Background

1. On December 14, 2023, Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company filed

revisions to its General Exchange Tariff, Business Access Line and Package Increases with the

Commission.<sup>1</sup>

### **II.** Suspension Order

2. K.S.A. 66-117(c) states in part:

The commission shall not delay the effective date of the proposed change in rate, joint rate, toll, charge or classification or schedule of charges, or in any rule or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or common carrier, more than 240 days beyond the date the public utility or common carrier filed its application requesting the proposed change. If the commission does not suspend the proposed schedule within 30 days of the date the same is filed by the public utility or common carrier, such proposed schedule shall be deemed approved by the commission and shall take effect on the proposed effective date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tariff Revision for Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company, December 14, 2023.

3. A full investigation of the filing is deemed necessary and proper. Absent suspension, the Commission and its Staff are without sufficient time to fully review, consider, and analyze whether approval of the filing will result in just and reasonable rates.

4. The Commission finds and concludes that suspension of the effectiveness of the filing and deferral of its effective date are required to allow sufficient time for full investigation of this matter. The effectiveness of the Application is hereby suspended for a period of 240 days from the date it was filed, December 14, 2023, until Monday, August 12, 2024, pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117(c).<sup>2</sup> A Commission decision may be issued before such date.

#### THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117(c), the above-captioned docket shall be suspended and the effective date deferred until August 12, 2024.

B. Electronic service shall be utilized for serving pleadings/motions and orders.

C. Any party may file and serve a petition for reconsideration pursuant to the

requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).<sup>3</sup>

#### BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_12/28/2023

Lynn M. Ref

Lynn M. Retz Executive Director

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The 240-day time period ends Saturday, August 10, 2024. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-503(c), the deadline is extended until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, which is Monday, August 12, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-503(c); K.S.A. 77-531(b).

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 24-FCMT-444-TAR

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of

electronic service on <u>12/28/2023</u>

CAROLE J WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR - TARIFFS & COMPLIANCE CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF MISSOURI COMPANY 5 DAVIS FARM ROAD PORTLAND, ME 04103 carole.williamson@consolidated.com KYLER C. WINEINGER, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 k.wineinger@kcc.ks.gov

/S/ KCC Docket Room

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