# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:	Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair Jay Scott Emler Pat Apple	
In the Matter of the Application Bell Telephone for Approval of Agreement Under the Telecomm 1996 With Wide Voice, LLC.	Interconnection )	Docket No. 15-SWBT-605-IAT

## ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

NOW, 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:

- 1. On June 25, 2015, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed an Application for approval of an Interconnection Agreement with Wide Voice, LLC (Wide Voice).
- 2. The Commission derives its authority to supervise telecommunications public utilities from K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 66-1,188. K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires all telecommunications public utilities doing business in Kansas to:

...publish and file with the commission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls, charges, classifications and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate, and shall furnish the commission copies of all rules and regulations and contracts between such telecommunications public utilities pertaining to any and all jurisdictional services to be rendered by such telecommunications public utilities.

Section 252(e)(2) of the Federal Telecommunications Act [47 U.S.C. §252(e)(2)] requires the Commission to presume that interconnection agreements entered into through negotiation and submitted for Commission approval are valid unless:

(1) the agreement (or portions thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or

(2) the implementation of such agreement (or portions thereof) is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

3. On August 12, 2015, Commission Staff (Staff) submitted its Report and

Recommendation (R&R), attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference, recommending the

Commission approve the Interconnection Agreement between SWBT and Wide Voice. Staff found no

evidence this Agreement discriminates against any telecommunications carrier, nor is it inconsistent

with the public interest, convenience or necessity. Staff found the companies are registered with the

Kansas Secretary of State's office and are active and in good standing with that office. Thus, Staff

recommends the Commission grant SWBT's Application and approve the Interconnection Agreement.

4. The Commission finds Staff's findings and recommendation to be reasonable and

hereby adopts the same.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. SWBT's Application is hereby granted and the Interconnection Agreement between

SWBT and Wide Voice, LLC is hereby approved.

B. The parties have fifteen (15) days, plus three (3) days if mailed service, from the date

this Order was served in which to petition for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the

purpose of entering such further orders, as necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Commissioner; Apple, Commissioner

Dated: AUG 2 0 2015

ORDER MAILED AUG 21 2015

Amy L. Gilbert

Secretary to the Commission

**MJD** 

2

Utilities Division 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027



Phone: 785-271-3220 Fax: 785-271-3357 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Sam Brownback, Governor

Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner Pat Apple, Commissioner

# REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UTILITIES DIVISION

TO:

Chair Shari Feist Albrecht

Commissioner Jay Scott Emler

Commissioner Pat Apple

FROM:

Kelly Mabon, Telecommunications Analyst

Christine Aarnes, Chief of Telecommunications

Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

DATE:

August 12, 2015

**SUBJECT:** 

Docket No. 15-SWBT-605-IAT

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for Approval of Interconnection Agreement Under the

Telecommunications Act of 1996 With Wide Voice, LLC.

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On June 25, 2015, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed an Application for approval of an Interconnection Agreement with Wide Voice, LLC. Staff recommends approval of this Application.

The Commission action date is Thursday, September 24, 2015.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Commission derives its authority to supervise telecommunications public utilities from K.S.A. 66-1,188. K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires all telecommunications public utilities doing business in Kansas to "publish and file with the commission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls, charges, classifications and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate, and shall furnish the commission copies of all rules and regulations and contracts between such telecommunications public utilities pertaining to any and all jurisdictional services to be rendered by such telecommunications public utilities."

The U.S. Congress and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have preempted certain aspects of state regulation of interconnection between telecommunications carriers. Section 252(e)(2) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (47 U.S.C. §252(e)(2)) requires the Commission to presume that interconnection agreements entered into through negotiation and submitted for Commission approval are valid unless:

- 1) the agreement (or portions thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or
- 2) the implementation of such an agreement (or portions thereof) is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

## **ANALYSIS:**

SWBT contends that implementation of this Agreement complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Federal Act and believes approval is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier.

Having reviewed the Agreement between SWBT and Wide Voice, LLC, Staff finds no evidence to conclude this Agreement discriminates against any telecommunications carrier, nor is it inconsistent with public interest, convenience, or necessity. Staff believes the public will generally benefit from KCC approval of this Application.

The companies are registered with the Kansas Secretary of State and are active and in good standing with that office.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Commission grant approval of this Application for an Interconnection Agreement between SWBT and Wide Voice, LLC.

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

NO. CERT. COPIES NO. PLAIN COPIES

NAME AND ADDRESS

BRUCE A. NEY, GENERAL ATTORNEY AT&T MOBILITY 220 SE 6TH ST STE 515 TOPEKA, KS 66603-3596

MICHAEL DUENES, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 \*\*\*Hand Delivered\*\*\*

TANDY DECOSTA, DIRECTOR OF TELEPHONY SERVICES WIDE VOICE, LLC 401 SOUTH RAMPART SUITE 390 LAS VEGAS, NV 89145

# ORCER MAILED AUG 2 1 2015