Brad Little, Governor

Eric Anderson, President John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner Edward Lodge, Commissioner

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NEWS RELEASE: Commission approves interconnection agreement between telecom utilities.

**BOISE** (March 11, 2024) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved an interconnection agreement between TDS Telecom and Level 3 Communications, LLC.

An interconnection agreement sets out the terms under which local telephone companies do business with each other when they serve the same area. The agreement is designed to eliminate the need for a customer to subscribe to multiple networks in order to be able to communicate with other customers.

Under the terms of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, interconnection agreements are required to be submitted to the commission for approval. Telecom companies that enter into interconnection agreements can negotiate terms, prices, and conditions that do not comply with Federal Communications Commission rules or other regulations.

The agreement spells out the terms and conditions for the interconnection of Level 3's network to TDS Telecom's network, and financial compensation for the transport and termination of telecommunications traffic between TDS Telecom and Level 3, among other items.

Additional information is available at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7219.