My name is Wendy Sanders. I am currently serving as the Superintendent of Morgan Mill Elementary and Junior High School located at Farm to Market Rd 1189 and Hwy 281 in Morgan Mill, Texas. When we completed our 471 for the 2016 E-Rate year, the former Superintendent filed this under Billed Entity Number 87904.

We submitted an appeal concerning our funding for Funding Request Number 1699082023 but were denied this appeal. We are now submitting to you a request for a waiver for a filing deadline which was missed.

When we received the response to our appeal, this was the explanation provided to us: Our records show that your appeal was filed more than 60 days after the date your decision letter was issued. Your appeal was filed on 7/31/2018. The FCC Form 486 #44142 was issued on 6/8/2017. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules require appeals to be filed within 60 days of the date on the decision letter being appealed. FCC rules do not permit Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to consider your appeal.

Our original funding request (1699082023) was for our internet provider, AMG Technology Investment Group dba Nextlink, with SPIN 143036566. We requested $650 per month for 12 months for a total of $7800. With our 70% discount, we assumed we were funded $5460 which our service provider collected via SPI Forms, invoicing our school only the undiscounted amount.

As a relatively young Superintendent and new to this role, I realized when I started this job that the former Superintendent had NOT submitted the Form 486. I immediately submitted the required 486 when I realized the form was past due. I had never been in administration, and it took me a while to learn the required paperwork associated with this position.

On July 30, 2018, I received a notification that the funding commitment for this FRN was reduced. Instead of our funding commitment staying at $5460, our committed amount was reduced to $2275. I submitted an appeal the very next day which was July 31, 2018.

It is now my understanding that USAC is requesting a remittance payment of $3185 which is devastating for a small, rural school of our size. These funds for this funding request have already been distributed.

We would like to encourage you to reconsider the committed amount of funding for this request. As stated earlier, we are a very small, rural school in Texas, and our yearly budget barely covers required costs such as salaries and academic materials.

We are requesting a one-time waiver on this deadline. I have been completing E-Rate paperwork now for several years, and I have never made an error like my predecessor. This whole process has been an attempt to “clean up” something which I was given when I started.

Morgan Mill School is requesting that Funding Request Number 1699082023 be reinstated to the original commitment of $5460 please.