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*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
COMMISSION'S 2017 CERTIFICATION )  
OF RURAL CARRIERS' ELIGIBILITY TO ) CAUSE NO. 44947  
RECEIVE FEDERAL HIGH-COST )  
UNIVERSAL SUPPORT, PURSUANT TO )  
THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF ) APPROVED: SEP 20 2017  
1996, THE FCC'S MAY 23, 2001 ORDER, )  
AND OTHER RELATED FCC ORDERS. )

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

**Presiding Officers:**  
**David E. Ziegner, Commissioner**  
**David E. Veleta, Senior Administrative Law Judge**

On May 23, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") issued an Order ("the FCC's RTF Order")<sup>1</sup> assigning state commissions the responsibility of certifying that rural carriers or competitive eligible telecommunications carriers ("ETCs") designated to receive high cost support in the service areas of rural carriers are using federal high-cost support in a manner consistent with the requirements of Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Pursuant to Section 254(e), carriers must use universal service support "only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended." The FCC's RTF Order provided that state certifications should be submitted by October 1 each year for payments to be made during the following calendar year. These requirements were modified on November 18, 2011, in the FCC's comprehensive order reforming the federal universal service fund and intercarrier compensation system, the USF-ICC transformation order ("USF/ICC Order").<sup>2</sup> The FCC updated and extended the federal annual reporting requirements to all ETCs. Furthermore, the USF/ICC Order continues to require states to certify all state designated ETCs are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the upcoming year and specified these requirements in its regulations in 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.314. If a carrier is not certified by its state commission, it will not receive federal high-cost support. Thus, we opened this proceeding for the purpose of completing the 2017 FCC ETC recertification process.

Upon reviewing the completed applications, the Commission now finds that the applications that have been submitted by the applicants listed in Attachment A demonstrate the requisite compliance with the requirements of Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as interpreted by the FCC's RTF Order, USF-ICC Order, related FCC Orders and regulations, and this Commission's August 22, 2001 Order. More specifically, based on the

<sup>1</sup> *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers*, (16 FCC Rcd. 11244) (2001).

<sup>2</sup> *Connect America Fund*, (26 FCC Rcd. 17633) (2011).

completed applications, we find that all entities listed in Attachment A to this Order will be using federal high-cost support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e).

In accordance with the FCC's RTF Order and the USF/ICC Order, we direct the Commission's Secretary to inform the Universal Services Administrative Company ("USAC") and the FCC that this Commission has certified that the carriers identified in Attachment A to this Order have met the requirements of Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION that:**

1. The Indiana carriers identified in Attachment A to this Order shall be, and hereby are, certified by this Commission as having satisfied the requirements of Section 254(e).
2. The Commission's Secretary shall inform the FCC and USAC by October 1, 2017 that the aforementioned Indiana carriers have been so certified.
3. The Commission's Secretary shall forward a copy of this Order to all carriers identified in Attachment A.
4. This Order shall be effective on and after the date of its approval.

**ATTERHOLT, FREEMAN, HUSTON, AND ZIEGNER CONCUR; WEBER ABSENT:**

**APPROVED: SEP 20 2017**

**I hereby certify that the above is a true  
and correct copy of the Order as approved.**

  
**Mary M. Becerra**  
**Secretary of the Commission**

**Attachment A**  
**Carrier Certification List**  
**IURC Cause No. 44947**

<b>Eligible Telecommunications Carrier</b>	<b>Study Area Code</b>
AT&T Indiana (Formerly Indiana Bell Telephone Company)	325080
Bloomington Home Telephone Company	320742
CNM-Rus, Inc (formerly known as Cinergy MetroNet)	329010
Camden Telephone Co., Inc.	320744
Century Telephone of Central Indiana, Inc.	320747
Century Telephone of Odon, Inc.	320801
Citizens Telephone Corp.	320751
Clay County Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.	
(d/b/a Endeavor Communications)	320753
Communications Corporation of Indiana	320776
Communications Corporation of Southern Indiana	320809
Craigville Telephone Co., Inc.	320756
Daviess-Martin County Rural Telephone Corp.	320759
Frontier Communications of Indiana, Inc.	320750
Frontier of Thorntown LLC	320828
Frontier Midstates Inc. d/b/a Frontier	
(Formerly Verizon North Systems – Alltel Study Area)	323034
Frontier North, Inc. d/b/a Frontier	
(Formerly Verizon North Systems – GTE & Contel Study Areas)	320772/320779
Geetingsville Telephone Co., Inc.	320771
Hancock Rural Telephone Corp.	320775
Hancock Communications, Inc. a/k/a Central Indiana Communications, Inc.	329007
Home Telephone Company, Inc.	320778
Home Telephone Company of Pittsboro, Inc.	320777
Ligonier Telephone Company, Inc.	320783
Merchants & Farmers Telephone Company, Inc.	320788
Monon Telephone Co., Inc.	320790
Mulberry Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.	320792
New Lisbon Telephone Co., Inc.	320796
New Lisbon Broadband and Communications, LLC	326111
New Paris Telephone, Inc.	320797
Northwestern Indiana Telephone Co., Inc.	320800
Perry-Spencer Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.	320807
Pulaski-White Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.	320813
Rochester Telephone Co., Inc.	320815
SEI Data, Inc.	329009
S&W Telephone Co., Inc.	320816
Smithville Telephone Co., Inc.	320818
Southeastern Indiana Rural Telephone Corp.	320819
Sunman Telecommunications Corp., Inc.	320825
Swayzee Telephone Co., Inc.	320826
Sweetser Telephone Co. Inc.	320827
Tipton Telephone Co., Inc.	320829
Tri-County Telephone Co., Inc.	320830
United Telephone of Indiana d/b/a CenturyLink	320832
Washington County Rural Telephone Co., Inc.	320834
West Point Telephone Company	320837
Yeoman Telephone Company	320839