



FRANKLIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

1018 Highland Colony Parkway, Suite 700
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157
Telephone: 601-355-1522 Fax: 601-353-0950

November 2, 2017

Kris Monteith
Wireline Competition Bureau Chief
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet*, GN Docket No. 14-28,
Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, *Developing a Unified
Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket No. 01-92**

Dear Ms. Monteith:

Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC" or "Commission") *Open Internet Order*,¹ Franklin Telephone Company, Inc. ("Franklin" or the "Company"), Study Area Code 280454, hereby notifies the Wireline Competition Bureau ("WCB" or "Bureau") of its intention to cease offering its DSL Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective January 1, 2018. As such, the transmission component will not be provided as a separate regulated service and will only be provided as part of the complete broadband Internet access service that the Company offers to end user customers within its Mississippi serving area through the Company.

Franklin currently provides broadband Internet transmission service as a detariffed Title II offering. The only customer for the Company's broadband Internet transmission service is the Company's affiliate nonregulated ISP. Notice to the affiliate ISP was provided this date by interoffice memorandum that the Company will discontinue the offering of broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective January 1, 2018.

The Commission made clear in the *Rate-of-Return Connect America Fund Order*,² as well as the *Clarification Order*,³ that a rate-of-return carrier could make the

¹ *Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet*, GN Docket No. 14-28, Report and Order on Remand, Declaratory Ruling and Order, 30 FCC Rcd 5601, ¶ 460 and n. 1378 (2015).

² *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Report and Order, Order and Order on Reconsideration and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 16-33, ¶ 194, n. 428 (rel. Mar. 30, 2016).

³ *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Order DA 16-661, ¶ 25 (WCB, rel. June 15, 2016) (citing the *Open Internet Order*).

retail offering described in the foregoing first paragraph, and thus the revenues associated with the broadband Internet access transmission would no longer be subject to the federal universal service assessment pursuant to FCC Form 499-A.

This notice is effective 60 days from the date of this letter unless withdrawn or extended prior to that time.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions,

Sincerely,



Wesley Goings
Franklin Telephone Company, Inc.
President

cc: Pamela Arluk, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau Pricing Policy Division
Special Assistant for Telecommunications at the Department of Defense
Mississippi Public Service Commission
The Office of the Honorable Phil Bryant, Governor of Mississippi

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notification of Discontinuance of broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service was served this 2nd day of November 2017 by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons:

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Office of Governor Phil Bryant
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Katherine Collier
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 1174
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1174



Wesley Goings
Franklin Telephone Company, Inc.
President