



NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE

ADMINISTRATION

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May 23, 2016

Jon Wilkins
Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: SAL Spectrum, LLC
Petition for Waiver*

Dear Mr. Wilkins,

I write today to urge the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to grant the request of Atlantic Tele-Network, Inc. (ATN) and its subsidiary SAL Spectrum, LLC (SAL) for a waiver to enable it to qualify for the rural service provider bidding credit in the upcoming incentive auction.

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe is located in a very rural part of southeastern Montana, where for years our community remained a wireless dead-zone. Major wireless carriers had shown little or no interest in serving our community. Without cell phone service and internet connectivity, we lacked the basic building blocks for economic development and civic participation. Today, thanks to the efforts of ATN subsidiary Commnet Wireless, most of our Tribal residents have access to 3G mobile networks and Internet connectivity in our homes and businesses. This service was made possible because Commnet qualified for support from the FCC's Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I auction. ATN, through Commnet, entered our area and provided wireless access to many Tribal residents for the first time. ATN's strong commitment to serving our Tribal land has, and will continue to, enhance development potential along the Highway 212 corridor and for the upcoming Otter Creek Coal mine in the Ashland area. We are grateful for the connectivity that they have provided.

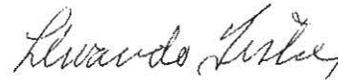
In today's increasingly mobile and Internet-driven economy, access to 3G and 4G wireless networks is essential. And in emergency situations, access to a cell phone connection is not just a convenience, it is essential. Lives have been improved because of the commitment to serving Tribal lands that Commnet has consistently demonstrated. In fact, when they began the process of building new towers to ensure reservation-wide coverage approximately a year ago, they initially deployed a 96 foot cell tower on wheels (COW) in Lame Deer, MT to enable

LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR - Out of defeat and exile they led us back to Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.

wireless service until a permanent network was constructed. Commnet is also working with the tribe as a retail agent for Lifeline service to make sure our poorest residents are able to take advantage of the service.

As we understand it, the fact that ATN serves has operations in foreign countries was not relevant to Commnet's eligibility for Tribal Mobility Fund support. It also should not prevent SAL from qualifying for a rural service provider bidding credit. We urge the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to grant ATN/SAL's waiver request so that they can utilize the rural service provider bidding credit in the incentive auction to bring more wireless service to rural America. Consumers in other rural and remote parts of the country should have the same opportunity for competitive wireless service that we have benefited from.

Sincerely,



Llevando Fisher
President

cc: Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly