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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Attention: Patrick Forster, Senior Engineer (3-A104)
Policy Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau**

**Re: Cable & Communications Corporation
TRS # 812411
Implementation Plans of Wireless E911 Phase II Automatic
Location Identification
CC Docket No. 94-102**

REVISION TO E911 PHASE II IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Dear Ms. Salas:

Cable and Communications Corporation dba Mid-Rivers Cellular ("C&CC"), by its attorneys and pursuant to Section 20.18(i) of the Commission's Rules,¹ hereby reports the revision of its E911 Phase II Implementation Report filed November 9, 2000 and supplemented on December 20, 2000, to specify that C&CC must utilize a network-based ALI technology, rather than a handset-based solution as previously reported.²

I. Background

C&CC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Mid-Rivers"), operates an analog cellular system covering vast small communities and vast rural areas within eastern Montana (see coverage map - Attachment 1). Mid-Rivers provides wireline services within 30,000 square miles of extremely rural country. Mid-Rivers acquired the rights to provide cellular service through obtaining "fill-in" licenses after other wireless providers declined to serve these areas during their initial construction periods. Motivated by

¹ 47 C.F.R. §20.18(i).

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² A facsimile copy of a Declaration by an authorized company representative attesting to the accuracy of this report is attached. A supplemental filing will be made after the original has been received.

considerations in addition to a pure profit motive, Mid-Rivers, as a cooperative telephone company, provides cellular service in order to bring wireless technology to its member-subscribers through its subsidiary. In the vast majority of C&CC's cellular service area, it is the sole provider of wireless service.

C&CC's cellular system is comprised of a Nortel DMS-MTX switch and ten cell sites. In addition to the cellular system, the company is the licensee of an F-Block broadband PCS license in the Billings, Montana BTA which is not yet operational. As stated in its initial report, the company has not yet determined what type of technology it will utilize in the build-out of this PCS license or whether it will utilize a network- or handset-based E911 Phase II technology. C&CC will notify the Commission once these matters are determined.

C&CC filed its E911 Phase II Implementation Report on November 9, 2000 in accordance with Section 20.18(i) of the Commission's Rules. In this initial report, C&CC stated that in light of the prohibitive cost of network-based solutions and the problems associated with the use of triangulation in a rural setting, it was inclined to select a handset-based ALI solution for its cellular network.³ A month later, in response to a written request by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, C&CC supplemented the report to state that it had chosen a handset-based ALI technology.

II. Handset-Based E911 Phase II Solution is Not Technically Feasible for C&CC

After a diligent search, C&CC has not been able to identify any location technology vendors or equipment manufacturers that currently produce ALI-capable phones that would provide adequate service to subscribers of its system. C&CC's system has been designed with widely spaced cell sites in order to serve most economically the sparsely populated rural areas that make up most of C&CC's service territory. This means that for C&CC's subscribers to have adequate service on its cellular system, they must use three watt analog phones.⁴ Lower watt cellular phones will not provide users with adequate handoff capabilities and coverage in C&CC's system and thus are virtually useless. Consequently, over sixty percent of C&CC's subscribers use three watt analog "bag" phones.

C&CC has made a diligent search for vendors that provide Phase II location-based solutions for analog three-watt phones and has been unable to identify any that meet the FCC's E911 Phase II location requirements. One vendor, Airbiquity, provides a compact GPS accessory that is designed to operate on analog systems, but the accessory works only on certain Nokia

³ Based upon quotes from Nortel, C&CC estimated that the cost of Phase II compliance with a network-based solution would approach \$1,400 per subscriber.

⁴ See *In the Matter of Revision of the Commission's Rules To Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems: Second Report and Order*, 14 FCC Rcd 10954, 10961 (1999) ("Second R&O") (Commission noting that the coverage gap is larger for portable phones and citing estimates that show rural cells fall to 66 percent coverage for portable phones in comparison to urban cells that provide 90 percent coverage for both mobile and portable phones).

brand phones, none of which are three watt phones. Additionally, the Airbiquity accessory works only on phones that are dual mode. C&CC has not yet decided what digital technology it will deploy when it turns up its PCS license and is therefore unable at this time to choose the type of dual mode phone that its system will eventually require.

Another vendor, Tendler Cellular, is working on a GPS accessory “backpack” that attaches to the handset. After dialing 911, the caller presses a “locate” button on the device to activate the location features. Tendler plans to manufacture the devices in the second quarter of 2002. The device has not yet been tested and it is not known at this time whether the device might work on three-watt “bag” phones.

Given the absence of the development of handset solutions for three watt analog phones this option is not available to C&CC currently, nor would it be reasonable for C&CC to redesign its system to accommodate the activation of the 0.6 watt phones. If C&CC were to begin implementing a handset-based E911 Phase II solution, the underlying purpose of the FCC’s E911 Rules would be frustrated.⁵

C&CC is the only wireless service provider in all but one segment of its service area, the Plevra/Baker area (see Attachment 1). If C&CC were to cease operations, these wireless consumers will be completely unable to obtain access to basic emergency 911 services on a mobile basis, a critical need for those traveling long stretches of highway in rural eastern Montana.⁶ This would disserve the public interest and be wholly contrary to the underlying purpose of the FCC’s 911 Rules.

⁵ See *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* 9 FCC Rcd 6170, 6178 (1994) (FCC proposed the phased-in approach for E911 due to concerns about “technical and financial feasibility expressed by manufacturers and communications service providers”); *In the Matter of Revision of the Commission’s Rules To Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems: Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 11 FCC Rcd 18676, 18707, 18718 (1996) (FCC adopting a phased-in approach that is “rigorous without being impossible or commercially self-defeating” and noting that waivers would be appropriate in the exceptional circumstances where deployment of E911 may not be technically or economically feasible within the timetable allowed); *U.S. Cellular, et.al. v. FCC*, Case No. 00-1072, D.C. Cir., FCC Brief at 33 (“If a small or rural carrier can show that, in fact, it is uniquely disadvantaged by the technological or economic demands imposed on it by the FCC’s E911 implementation schedule, the waiver procedure is available for it to seek appropriate individualized relief”).

⁶ See Second R&O at 10962-63 (“The record indicates that one specific step the Commission can take in the interest of public safety is to improve wireless 911 call completion, especially in rural areas, and thus to facilitate more efficient and rapid emergency response”).

III. Status of Network-Based Solutions

Because handset-based technologies are not financially or technically feasible, C&CC must instead chose a network-based solution. To this end, C&CC has contacted various network-based vendors and service bureaus to obtain availability and pricing information.

C&CC's switch vendor, Nortel, has supplied updated estimates regarding the costs of implementing its E911 Phase II solution.⁷ It is C&CC's understanding from discussions with Nortel that in order to deploy Nortel's E911 Phase II solution in any portion of the network, a system-wide modification will be required. Accordingly, a request from one PSAP to deploy E911 in its jurisdiction would obligate C&CC to incur all of the costs necessary to deploy E911 in its entire service area. The most recent estimate that C&CC has received from Nortel is an immediate cost of \$460,000 for hardware and \$2,300,000 for software.

C&CC has also received quotes from TSI, TCS and US Wireless. These quotes are subject to nondisclosure agreements and thus are not provided.⁸ C&CC has not been able to identify any vendor that would provide the service for free as suggested by the Commission.⁹ Without the ability to spread these costs over a large subscriber base, the cost of deploying a network-based or hybrid technology will be prohibitively expensive. Accordingly, C&CC is continuing to search for network-based solutions that are both technically and economically feasible.

⁷ For further information regarding Nortel's network architecture, see Section 3 of C&CC's Implementation Report.

⁸ Grayson Wireless declined to provide a quote after it was informed that the information might be submitted to the FCC under request for confidentiality. According to the Phase II Implementation Report for North Carolina RSA 3 Cellular Telephone Company, Inc. dba Carolina West Wireless filed November 9, 2000, the cost of deployment of Grayson's solution is estimated to be approximately \$25,000 per cell site plus a \$65,000 central control system. This equates to approximately \$315,000 for C&CC's system. Several attempts were made to contact TruePosition, Signal Soft Corporation, Sigma One Communications and Telesentinel but to date have received no response. The Commission has previously cited United States Cellular Corporation's estimate that it would cost about \$90 million to upgrade its more than 2,500 cell sites to employ TruePosition's network-based solution, *i.e.*, approximately \$36,000 per cell site. This equates to approximately \$360,000 for C&CC's system.

⁹ See Fourth MO&O at 17453. The vendor that was referenced by the Commission as proposing to provide ALI for 911 calls to carriers without charge was Cell-Loc. Cell-Loc determined that their system would not work for C&CC.

IV. Status of PSAP Requests

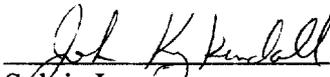
As demonstrated by the attached Wireless E911 Status report (Attachment 2),¹⁰ none of the PSAPs in C&CC's service area has requested either Phase I or Phase II E911 service.

V. Updated Contact Information

Please note that the contact information for C&CC has changed to:

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Respectfully submitted,



Sylvia Lesse
John Kuykendall

Counsel For
CABLE & COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

cc: Qualex International (diskette)

¹⁰ The report is an update of the initial Wireless E911 Status report that was attached to C&CC's November 9, 2000 E911 Phase II Implementation Report.

WIRELESS E-911 STATUS

Name of PSAP	Counties Routing to this PSAP	Exchanges Routing to this PSAP	911 Status Wireline	E911 Status Wireline	Phase I Wireless	Phase II Wireless	Comments
Custer County PSAP- Miles City	Custer County	Rock Springs - 406/354 Fallon - 406/486 Plevna - 406/772	Implemented 911	E911 Direct Trunks	Not requested	Not requested	E911 Direct trunk routing. Not aware of their ANI/ALI status.
Dawson County PSAP -Glendive	Dawson County	Glendive - 406/377 Circle - 406/485 Fallon - 406/486 S. Wolf Point - 406/525 Lindsay - 406/584 Bloomfield - 406/583 Richey - 406/773 Lambert - 406/774 West Sidney - 406/798	Implemented 911	E911 Direct Trunks - PSAP is not using ANI/ALI	Not requested	Not requested	PSAP has not completed approved E911 Plan.
Fallon County 911 - Baker	Fallon County	Fallon - 406/486 East Carlyle - 406/588 Plevna - 406/772 Ekalaka - 406/775 Baker - 406/778	Implemented 911	Implemented E911 w/ ANI/ALI	Not requested	Not requested	PSAP is currently updating database for ALI.
McCone County PSAP - Circle	McCone County	Circle - 406/485 South Wolf Point - 406/525 Jordan - 406/557 Lindsay - 406/584	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	County has completed rural addressing and is researching ANI/ALI equipment.
McKenzie County PSAP	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	Calls currently routed to Richland County PSAP. May change in the future.
Musselshell County PSAP - Roundup	Musselshell County	Roundup - 406/323 Melstone - 406/358 Grass Range - 406/428 Winnett - 406/429 North Ryegate - 406/575 Musselshell - 406/947	Implemented 911	Implemented E911 w/ in house ANI database.	Not requested	Not requested	PSAP is in the process of submitting final draft of E911 plan. They are working on MSAG file for ALI database.

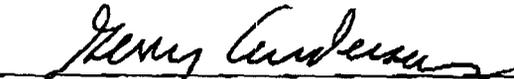
ATTACHMENT 2

WIRELESS E-911 STATUS

Name of PSAP	Counties Routing to this PSAP	Exchanges Routing to this PSAP	911 Status Wireline	E911 Status Wireline	Phase I Wireless	Phase II Wireless	Comments
Prairie County PSAP - Terry	Prairie County	Rock Springs – 406/354 Fallon – 406/486 Lindsay – 406/584 Terry – 406/635	Implemented 911	Not E911	Not requested	Not requested	Prairie County is working on rural addressing. No approved E911 plan to our knowledge.
Richland County PSAP - Sidney	Richland County	West Glendive – 406/687 South Wolf Point – 406/525 Savage – 406/776 Richey – 406/773 Lambert – 406/774 West Sidney – 406/798 Sidney – 406/488	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	Not aware of any approved E911 plan at this time.
Roosevelt County 911	Roosevelt	South Wolf Point – 406/525	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	Approved E911 Plan. PSAP is working on ANI/ALI database and equipment.
Rosebud County PSAP - Forsyth	Rosebud	Melstone – 406/358 Musselshell – 406/947	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	E911 committee has been meeting on the development of the database. Not aware
Tri-County - Lewistown	Fergus Petroleum Judith Basin	Grass Range – 406/428 Winnett – 406/428 Roy – 406/464 North Ryegate – 406/575	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	The are just starting to rebuild their rural addressing database
Wheatland/Golden Valley County 911	Wheatland County Golden Valley County	Ryegate – 406/568 North Ryegate – 406/575 Lavina – 406/636	Implemented 911	Not requested	Not requested	Not requested	Obtained cost from Mid-Rivers for E911 services on 8/11/2000
Yellowstone County PSAP	Yellowstone County	Custer – 406/856 Musselshell – 406/947	Implemented 911	Implemented Phase I	Not requested	Not requested	Working on updating their MSAG database

DECLARATION OF GERRY ANDERSON

I, Gerry Anderson, General Manager of Cable & Communications Corporation, do hereby declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing Revision to E911 Phase II Implementation Report and that the facts stated therein are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. -


Gerry Anderson

Dated: September 14, 2001