



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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Federal Communications Commission  
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## COMMON CARRIER BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON PINE BELT CELLULAR AND PINE BELT PCS PETITION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN ALABAMA

### PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 96-45 /

Release Date: December 7, 2001

**Comment Date: 30 days after publication in Federal Register**

**Reply Comment Date: 45 days after publication in Federal Register**

On November 26, 2001, Pine Belt Cellular and Pine Belt PCS (Pine Belt) filed with the Commission a petition under section 214(e)(6) seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) to receive federal universal service support for service offered in Alabama.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, Pine Belt contends that: 1) the Alabama Public Service Commission has provided an affirmative statement that it lacks jurisdiction to consider Pine Belt's petition, 2) Pine Belt meets all the statutory and regulatory prerequisites for ETC designation, and 3) designating Pine Belt as an ETC will serve the public interest.<sup>2</sup> The Common Carrier Bureau seeks comment on the Pine Belt Petition, including the requested service area.

The petitioner must provide copies of its petition to the Alabama Public Service Commission at the time of filing with the Commission. The Commission will also send a copy of this Public Notice to the Alabama Public Service Commission by overnight express mail to ensure that the Alabama Public Service Commission is notified of the notice and comment period.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments as follows: comments are due **30 days after publication of the Public Notice in the Federal Register** and reply comments are due **45 days**

<sup>1</sup> See *Pine Belt Cellular and Pine Belt PCS Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier*, filed November 26, 2001 (Pine Belt Petition). See Pine Belt Petition at Exhibit 3 for the specific service areas requested.

<sup>2</sup> Pine Belt Petition at 2-8.

**after publication of the Public Notice in the Federal Register.** Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 Fed. Reg. 24,121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit electronic comments by Internet e-mail. To receive filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to [ecfs@fcc.gov](mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov), and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address.>" A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Parties also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street S.W., Room 5-B540, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 Twelfth Street S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are permitted subject to disclosure.

For further information, contact Richard Smith or Anita Cheng, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.