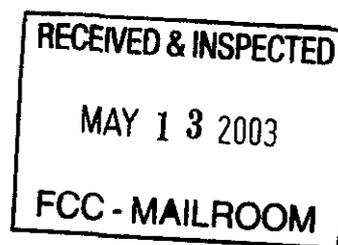


May 5, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554



CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to appeal the recent decision by the SLC to reject my 2002-2003 E-Rate 471 request as "Out of the Window".

Contact Information:

Contact: Deborah Cline, Technology Manager
North Penn School District
Entity Number: 126228
Telephone number: 215-368-0400 x241
Fax number: 215-368-8129
E-mail Address: clinedj@npenn.org

SLD Action:

Appeal the "Out of Window Certification" status posted on the website for the 2002-2003 FCC Form 471 and fund the request. Application #323279 (North Penn School District) was filed electronically and mailed on 1/17/2002.

Explanation of the Appeal:

I electronically filed Form 471 (Entity number 126228; Application number 323279) and mailed the Block 6: Certifications and Signature page on 1/17/2002 (ie: within the filing window). Months passed and I received no acknowledgement letter. Therefore, I checked the status of the form on the SLC website (<http://www.sl.universalservice.org>) and noted the status as "In Review" (ie: As per the website explanation: "Your Form 471 is being reviewed for compliance with FCC rules by the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) group. You may be contacted by PIA during the review process."). Therefore I assumed the process was delayed and remained patient.

Months passed with no acknowledgement letters and no change in status. I called the SLC and the support person let me know that there were delays in processing all of the applications. Months passed and still no acknowledgement letter or change in status. Again we called the SLC and spoke with "Summer" who informed us that the acknowledgement letter has not been sent out yet and to call back in a couple of days. Weeks went by, no letter. We then issued a case #18145 to find out more information about the delay. The answer from the SLC (now January 2003) was that our Block 6: Certifications and Signature page was postmarked on 1/18/2002 and therefore the application was considered "Out of Window" and thus the delay.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List A B C D E

The Block 6: Certifications and Signature page was mailed on 1/17/2002 and I have no reason to believe differently. My request for a copy of the postmarked envelope was refused. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible so that we can receive the refunds due. Furthermore, why was I not informed of this issue until half way through the year???

I reviewed the Appeals Procedures and mailed an appeal to the SLC on March 20, 2003 (see enclosed). Last week I received a "decision letter" (see enclosed) stating that my appeal had been denied because it was received more than 60 days after the date of our Form 471 Certification-Rejection letter. But... I had never received a Rejection letter and this was confirmed by Doe Gunthrie at the SLC in a phone call on 5/5/03. Ms. Gunthrie reviewed my records and confirmed that no Form 471 Certification-Rejection letter was mailed and therefore the decision to reject my appeal was unwarranted.

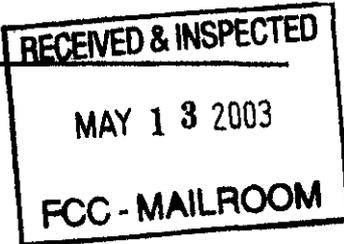
This action further supports my case that a lack of organization on behalf SLC has caused my Form 471 request to be inappropriately dated and denied.

Sincerely, Deborah Cline

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Cline". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.



Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Division



Administrator's Decision on Appeal

April 30, 2003

Deborah Cline
North Penn School District
401 East Hancock St.
Lansdale, PA 19446

Re: Application Number: 323279
Funding Year: 2002-2003
Date of Issuance of
Postcard Notification: 11/22/02
Date Appeal Received: 03/20/03

Our records show that your appeal was received more than 60 days after the date your Form 471 Certification-Rejection Letter was issued (see dates above). The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules require applicants to submit appeals so USAC/SLD receives them within 60 days of the date that the relevant Funding Commitment Decision Letter was issued. (See "Appeals Procedure" at <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/reference/AppealsProcedureYR4.asp>) The FCC rules do not permit the SLD to consider your appeal. If you wish to continue this process, you may submit a new appeal via the United States Postal Service, stating the impediment to your filing your appeal within the original time, to the FCC at the following address:

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

If you are submitting your appeal to the FCC by means other than the United States Postal Service, check the SLD web site for more information. Please reference CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21 on the first page of your appeal. **The FCC must RECEIVE your appeal WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE ABOVE DATE ON THIS LETTER for your appeal to be considered filed in a timely fashion.** Further information and new options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD web site, www.sl.universalservice.org, or by contacting the Client Service Bureau at 1-(888)-203-8100.

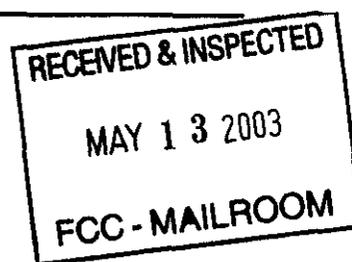
Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Services Administrative Company



Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools & Libraries Division

March 26, 2003

Deborah J. Cline
North Penn School District
401 E. Hancock St.
Lansdale, PA 19446



Deborah J. Cline

The Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company has received your correspondence on March 20, 2003 regarding the 2003-2004 funding decision on your 471 application number 323279. These are the steps that will now follow:

1. We will review your correspondence carefully to identify the specific issue(s) it raises.
2. We will consult the program integrity assurance records and all supporting documentation for the application. Our goal is to determine whether the program rules were administered appropriately in processing your application.
3. Once the review process is completed we will respond in writing and state whether your appeal is approved, denied or approved in part. We will then follow with a funding commitment decision letter for any approved appeal resulting in additional discounts for your application. Funds have been set aside to implement funding decisions for appeals approved by the SLD and/or the Federal Communications Commission.

We have begun in-depth review of the appeals we have received, and our goal is to respond to you as promptly as possible. We thank you in advance for your patience as we handle your case with the care and attention it deserves.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company

letter. We then issued a case #18145 to find out more information about the delay. We are then (February 2003) informed that although the electronic filing was completed on 1/17/2002, our Block 6: Certifications and Signature page was postmarked on 1/18/2002 and therefore the application was considered "Out of Window" and thus the delay. However, the Block 6: Certifications and Signature page *was* mailed on 1/17/2002 and I have no reason to believe differently. My request for a copy of the postmarked envelope was refused. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible so that we can receive the refunds due. Furthermore, why was I not informed of this issue until half way through the year? Lastly, why have I still not received any written notification of this status? The only way in which I found out this information was through our persistent communication with the SLC.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Cline

Debbie Cline
Technology Manager
North Penn School District
clinedj@npenn.org
215-368-0400 x241

March 20,2003

Letter of Appeal
Schools and Libraries Division
Box 125 – Correspondence Unit
80 South Jefferson Road
Whippany, NJ 07981



To whom it may concern,

I am writing to appeal the recent decision by the SLC to certify my 2002-2003 E-Rate 471 request as "Out of the Window".

Contact Information:

Contact: Deborah Cline, Technology Manager
North Penn School District
Entity Number: 126228
Telephone number: 215-368-0400 x241
Fax number: 215-368-8129
E-mail Address: clinedj@npenn.org

SLD Action:

Appeal the "Out of Window Certification" status posted on the website for the 2002-2003 FCC Form 471. Application #323279 (North Penn School District) filed electronically and mailed on 1/17/2002.

Explanation of the Appeal:

I electronically filed Form 471 (Entity number 126228; Application number 323279) and mailed the Block 6: Certifications and Signature page on 1/17/2002 (ie: within the filing window). Months passed and I received no acknowledgement letter. Therefore, I checked the status of the form on the SLC website (<http://www.sl.universalservice.org>) and noted the status as "In Review" (ie: As per the website explanation: "Your Form 471 is being reviewed for compliance with FCC rules by the Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) group. You may be contacted by PIA during the review process."). Therefore I assumed the process was delayed and remained patient. Months passed with no acknowledgement letters and no change in status. I called the SLC and the support person let me know that there were delays in processing all of the applications. Months passed and still no acknowledgement letter or change in

status. Again we called and spoke with a "Summer" who informed us that the acknowledgement letter has not been sent out yet and to call back in a couple of days. Weeks go by, no letter. We then issued a case #18145 to find out more information about the delay. We are then (January 2003) informed that our Block 6: Certifications and Signature page was postmarked on 1/18/2002 and therefore the application was considered "Out of Window" and thus the delay. The Block 6: Certifications and Signature page was mailed on 1/17/2002 and I have no reason to believe differently. My request for a copy of the postmarked envelope was refused. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible so that we can receive the refunds due. Furthermore, why was I not informed of this issue until half way through the year???

Sincerely, Deborah Cline