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November 25, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Pine Belt PCS, Inc. and Pine Belt Cellular, Inc.
Petition for Waiver of Sections 20.12(c) and 52.31(a)(2) of the
Commission's Rules
CC Docket Nos. 99-200 & 95-116; WT Docket No. 01-184
Ex Parte Presentation - Bi-Monthly Status Report Pursuant to Petition for
Waiver

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 22, 2002, Pine Belt PCS, Inc. and Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. (collectively "Pine Belt Wireless") submitted a Petition for Waiver seeking temporary extension of the requirement for Commercial Mobile Radio Service providers to support roaming with customers with pooled or ported numbers, as set forth in Section 20.12(c) and 52.31(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules.¹

In its Petition, Pine Belt Wireless committed to providing the Commission with bi-monthly status reports during the temporary extension period. Transmitted herewith on behalf of Pine Belt Wireless is its sixth bi-monthly status report. Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



John Kuykendall
Its Attorney

Attachment

cc: Chief, Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Patrick Forster, Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Jared Carlson, Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Qualx International

¹ On September 23, 2003, the Petition was amended to seek extension until May 23, 2004 ("Amended Petition"). On October 3, 2003, the Commission granted the Amended Petition. See *In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability – Carrier Requests for Clarification of Wireless-Wireline Porting Issues: Memorandum Opinion and Order*, CC Docket No. 95-116, FCC 03-237 at para. 37 (rel. Oct. 7, 2003).

PINE BELT PCS, INC. AND PINE BELT CELLULAR, INC.
BI-MONTHLY STATUS REPORT PURSUANT TO REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF
REQUIREMENT FOR CMRS PROVIDERS TO SUPPORT ROAMING FOR
CUSTOMERS WITH POOLED OR PORTED NUMBERS
SIXTH BI-MONTHLY STATUS REPORT

November 25, 2003

On November 22, 2002, Pine Belt PCS, Inc. and Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. (collectively "Pine Belt Wireless") filed a Petition for Waiver seeking temporary extension of the requirement for Commercial Mobile Radio Service ("CMRS") providers to support roaming with customers with pooled numbers or ported numbers ("Petition"). On September 23, 2003, the Petition was amended to seek extension until May 23, 2004 ("Amended Petition").¹ On October 3, 2003, the Commission granted the Amended Petition.²

In April 2003, Pine Belt Wireless reported that it had received approval for a Rural Utilities Service ("RUS") loan to provide funding for necessary software upgrades, including upgrades necessary to support roaming for customers with pooled or ported numbers and that the approval was contingent on several factors. In its Amended Petition, Pine Belt Wireless reported that the company had submitted all necessary documents to RUS, including information regarding the switch upgrade and was awaiting approval from RUS before the switch vendor, Lucent, could issue a finalized price for the upgrade.³

Pine Belt Wireless hereby reports that RUS has given its approval for the negotiation of a contract for the switch upgrade with Lucent. Pine Belt Wireless reports that it has sent the necessary specifications to Lucent and is in the final stages of negotiating the contract. The company anticipates sending the final contract to RUS for its approval within the next few weeks. Lucent has indicated that it will be able to make the necessary upgrades within ninety days after RUS approves the contract. Accordingly, as of this date, Pine Belt Wireless anticipates having the switch upgrades completed by the March/April 2004 timeframe.

¹ The Amended Petition also served as Pine Belt Wireless' fifth bi-monthly status report.

² See *In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability – Carrier Requests for Clarification of Wireless-Wireline Porting Issues: Memorandum Opinion and Order*, CC Docket No. 95-116, FCC 03-237 at para. 37 (rel. Oct. 7, 2003).

³ Amended Petition at 4-5.

In its second report, Pine Belt Wireless notified the Commission that a procedure is in place whereby the company is notified within 24 hours after a PSAP has experienced difficulty with handling a call that is associated with Pine Belt Wireless' network. This includes notification of problems associated with calling back a roamer after a call has been dropped. Pine Belt Wireless continues to report that since November 22, 2002, the company has not received any notifications from the four PSAPs of problems relating to calling back roamers.

Respectfully submitted,



John Nettles, President
Pine Belt Cellular, Inc.
Pine Belt PCS, Inc