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Release Date: January 9, 2008

COMMENT SOUGHT ON TRACFONE WIRELESS, INC.'S PETITIONS FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

CC Docket No. 96-45

Comment Date: February 8, 2008
Reply Comment: February 25, 2008

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on a petition filed by TracFone Wireless, Inc. (TracFone) on December 11, 2007, seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.[1] TracFone seeks ETC designation pursuant to section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, throughout the entire commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including both rural and non-rural telephone company service areas.[2] TracFone seeks ETC designation solely to provide Lifeline service to qualifying customers in Pennsylvania, and it asserts that it will not seek federal universal service funds for the purpose of providing service to high-cost areas.[3]

Interested parties may file **comments on or before February 8, 2008** and **reply comments on or before February 25, 2008**. All pleadings are to reference **CC Docket No. 96-45**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.[4]

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.

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[1] TracFone Wireless, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Limited Purpose of Offering Lifeline Service to Qualified Households, CC Docket No. 96-45 (filed Dec. 11, 2007) (TracFone Pennsylvania Petition). We note that TracFone should provide a copy of its petition to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission if it has not already done so.

[2] 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6); TracFone Pennsylvania Petition at iv.

[3] TracFone Pennsylvania Petition at 1.

[4] *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

In addition, one copy of each pleading must be sent to each of the following:

(1) The Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, www.bcpiweb.com; phone: (202) 488-5300 fax: (202) 488-5563;

(2) Jennifer McKee, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B550, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: Jennifer.McKee@fcc.gov; and

(3) David Duarte, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5B-441, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: David.Duarte@fcc.gov.

Filings and comments are also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CYB402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: 202 488-5300, fax: 202 488-5563, or via e-mail www.bcpiweb.com.

These matters shall be treated as "permit-but-disclose" proceedings in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.[5] Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented generally is required.[6] Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.[7]

For further information, please contact Jennifer McKee, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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[5] 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

[6] *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

[7] 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).