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Free Phones for Tornado Victims

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Reported by: Jessica Brown



JOPLIN, Mo.--

Free cell phones are available for tornado victims.

These little white boxes are giving tornado victims a chance to speak literally

Tornado victim April Hembree says, "I have no phone, I lost it in the storm and everything."

April Hembree hasn't been able to talk to some of her family members for weeks.

Hembree says, "My mother was frantic ..wanting to know where I was, and how I was doing, and I couldn't get a hold of her,

So she came down to McAuley Catholic High School to get some help

Representative of Tag Mobile Deandre Stewart says, "We're offering free government assistance cell phones to the community-you receive 68 minutes every month for a year."

This group of 6 is from St. Louis and part of government sponsored...Tag Mobile, And they're working non stop to help victims like april.

An organizer for Tag Mobile Lemont Belle says, "We are trying to give a way 5,000 phones."

Hearing story after story pushes the team to work even harder to bridge the communication gap.

Belle says, "He said you must really appreciate her now, because I haven't seen my Wife since the storm...And that just blew me out of the water."

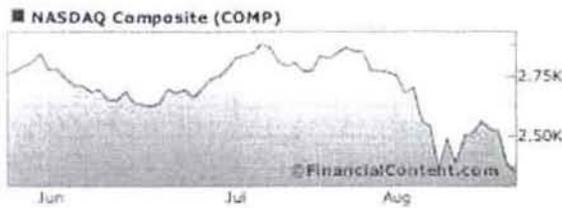
But there's one problem that's a road block for their progress. A lot of storm victims are without a ride to get the help.

Belle sends this message, "Bring these people here, bring them in your car, so we can write them up and give them a phone..let's give them a little hope for tomorrow."

The Tag Mobile organization will be at McAuley Catholic High school on 7th and Pearl until Saturday. They are there from 8:30 til 5 every day.

You must be registered and logged in to post a comment.

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Nasdaq	2394.16	+52.32 (+2.23%)
S&P 500	1143.80	+20.27 (+1.80%)
NYSE	7086.00	+115.90 (+1.66%)
10Y Yield	2.07	-0.00 (-0.13%)

**Someone just activated a
cell phone**

PROTECT YOURSELF

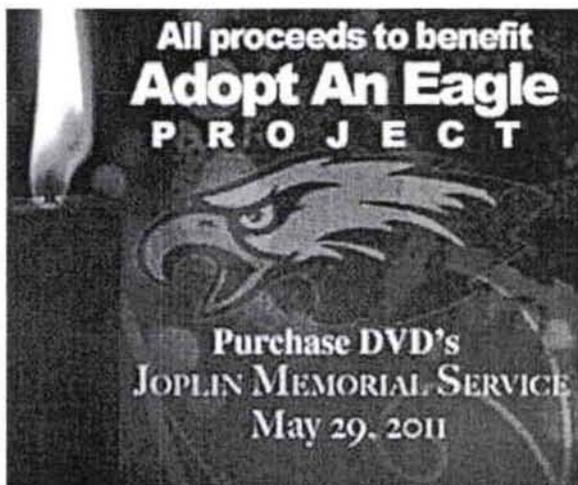
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EXHIBIT 6

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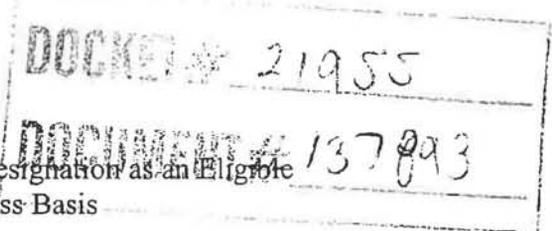
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Docket No. 21955

In Re: Application of Telrite Corporation for Designation as an Eligible
Telecommunications Carrier on a Wireless Basis



ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

Background

On August 2, 2010, Telrite Corporation ("Telrite") filed with the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") its Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier on a Wireless Basis. Telrite is not seeking Universal Service Fund ("USF") support for the purpose of providing service to high cost areas, but rather is seeking designation for the limited purpose of offering Lifeline service to qualified households.

Telrite asserts that it meets all the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") for designation as an ETC. 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a) requires the following services and functionality: (1) Voice grade access to the public switched telephone network, (2) Local usage, (3) Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent, (4) Single-party service or its functional equivalent, (5) Access to 911 and E911 emergency service, (6) Access to operator services, (7) Access to interexchange service, (8) Access to directory assistance, and (9) Toll limitation for qualified low-income customers.

Telrite also asserted that it meets the additional eligibility criteria that ETC applicants must satisfy in order to be granted ETC status adopted by the FCC in its March 17, 2005 Report and Order. The FCC found that ETC applicants must demonstrate: (1) a commitment and ability to provide the supported services throughout the designated area; (2) the ability to remain functional in emergency situations; (3) that it will satisfy consumer protection and quality of service standards; (4) that it offers local usage

comparable to that offered by the incumbent LEC; and (5) an acknowledgement that it may be required by the FCC to provide equal access if all other ETCs in the designated service area relinquish their designations pursuant to Section 214(e)(4) of the Act.

Telrite's Lifeline product is a wireless-based service, with no monthly service charge and up to 250 minutes of local and long-distance usage per month. Telrite does not require a credit check, deposit, or long-term contract. Additional minutes and text messages are priced at \$0.099 and \$0.05, respectively. Telrite customers do not incur charges for roaming.

Telrite is also requesting Link-Up funding. Telrite's customary activation charge is \$60, which, after the Link-Up subsidy, is reduced to \$30. The company will waive the remaining \$30 for Lifeline customers. The company will also provide new customers with a handset free of charge.

Telrite requests ETC designation in the non-rural exchange areas shown in Exhibit 1 to this order.

Telrite provided evidence that it is a facilities-based carrier and therefore meets the requirements of 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(1)(A). Telrite also committed to "advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefor using media of general distribution." 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(1)(B).

Telrite submitted its proposed advertising, customer sign-up form, and terms and conditions of service.

Telrite also submitted its proposed "non-usage plan" in accordance with the Commission's decision in Docket Nos. 18664 and 26282. In those dockets, the Commission found that it was appropriate to require Lifeline-only ETCs that provide service with no monthly fee to monitor the usage of their customers and disconnect customers that have not used the service for 60 days.

In its October 15, 2007 order in Docket No. 10396 approving the ETC Application of Alltel Communications, Inc. ("Alltel"), the Commission adopted the Staff's recommendation. In that docket, the Staff recommendation was as follows:

[T]he Staff recommends that the Commission approve Alltel's Application with the following conditions and filing requirements:

- The Commission reserves the right to conduct audits as needed to determine that the funds are used for permitted purposes.
- Alltel's ETC designation may at any time be suspended or revoked by order of the Commission.

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- Alltel shall make all service offerings, including Lifeline/ Link-Up available on its internet website.
- Alltel shall file within 30 days of approval of its ETC application its terms and conditions of service, and rate plans including its Link-Up and Lifeline discounts available to qualifying low-income customers. Further, Alltel shall have the ongoing obligation to notify the Commission of any future changes to its rates, terms, or conditions.
- Alltel shall file within 30 days of approval of its ETC application proposed language to be used in all advertising of Lifeline/ Link-Up services and on its website. The language should include information directing customers to the Commission's Consumer Affairs unit for complaints regarding any service issues. The Staff shall have the right to review and make changes to any proposed language.
- Alltel shall file the following information on March 31, 2008 (and updated information every March 31 thereafter, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission):
 1. A map showing Alltel's actual January 2007 service area, and a map showing the January 2008 estimated service area *increase or decrease*. Additionally, the map should include locations of all new facilities constructed.
 2. Alltel shall report all instances in which the company refuses to serve a customer. Alltel shall be required to provide information regarding the specific location of the customer (street address), the company's rationale for refusal of service, and the company's progress with establishing interconnection arrangements which permit resale of either wireless or Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier ("ILEC") services in the customer's location.
 3. Estimated total 2007 federal funds, actual total federal funds received in 2007, and estimated total funds to be received in 2008.
 4. A spreadsheet listing each wire center, the name of the ILEC associated with that wire center, estimated 2007 expenses (from trade secret filing made with the Application), actual 2007 expenses, and estimated 2008 expenses.

Staff Recommendation

The Staff recommended that the Commission designate Telrite as an ETC in the areas shown in Exhibit 1 for the limited purpose of providing Lifeline service, and that the Commission apply the same conditions to Telrite as it did Alltel, to the extent those conditions apply to Lifeline service.

The Staff further recommended that the Commission condition the grant of ETC designation to Telrite upon the company's satisfactory resolution of complaints filed with the Commission in connection with Telrite's Lifeline service offering, consistent with the Commission's decision in Docket No. 26282, Application of TracFone Wireless, Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Georgia for the Limited Purpose of Offering Lifeline Service to Qualified Households.

The Commission finds the Staff's recommendation reasonable and hereby adopts the Staff's recommendation.

* * * * *

WHEREFORE, it is

ORDERED, that Telrite is granted ETC designation for the limited purpose of providing Lifeline and Link-Up service.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the conditions imposed upon Alltel in Docket No. 10396 shall be imposed upon Telrite, to the extent those conditions apply to Lifeline service.

ORDERED FURTHER, that Telrite's ETC designation shall also be conditioned upon the satisfactory resolution of complaints filed with the Commission's Consumer Affairs Unit, consistent with the Commission's decision in Docket No. 26282.

ORDERED FURTHER, that any proposed increases in the company's Lifeline rates or connection charges, or any proposed surcharges, other than those specifically provided for in State or Federal law, will require an amendment to the company's ETC designation.

ORDERED FURTHER, that Telrite will include its lowest cost Lifeline product in all advertisements.

ORDERED FURTHER, that Telrite's non-usage plan is hereby approved.

ORDERED, that Telrite shall file with the Commission quarterly reports, due no later than 15 days from the close of each quarter, that report the number of customers that have been deactivated for not having activity in a 60-day period, the number of customers

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that did not pass annual verification, and the number of customers that were voluntarily deactivated.

ORDERED FURTHER, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing, oral argument, or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order(s) as this Commission may deem just and proper.

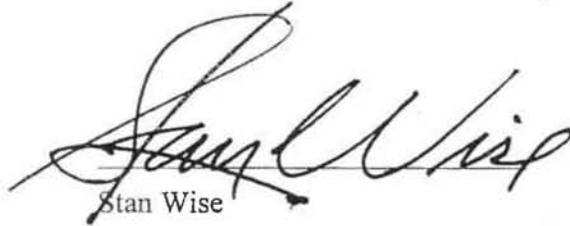
The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 16th day of August 2011.



Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary

8-22-11

DATE



Stan Wise
Chairman

8-22-11

DATE

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Exhibit 1

Non-Rural Wire Centers

Company

Wire Center

BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ACWOGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AGSTGAU
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AGSTGAF
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AGSTGAMT
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AGSTGATH
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AIVLGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ALBYGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ALPRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	AMRCGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	APNGGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ARTNGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ASTLGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATHNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAAD
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGABH
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGABU
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGACD
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGACS
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAEL
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAGR
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAHR
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGALA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAPP
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGASS
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGATH
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAWD
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ATLNGAWE
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BCHNGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BCTNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BGRTGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BLCSGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BNBRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BNTNTNMT
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BRMNGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BRVIGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BRWKGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BUFRGABH
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BWDNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	BXLYGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CCHRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CDTWGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CHMBGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CHTGTNBR
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CHTGTNNS
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CHTGTNSE
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLHNGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLXTNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLMBGAAT
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLMBGABV

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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLMBGAMT
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLMBGAMW
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLMTGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CLQTGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CMLLGAMA
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CNCRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CNYRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CORDGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CRHLTNCB
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CRTNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CRVLGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	CSSTGAMA
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	DGVLGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	DLLSGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	DLTHGAHS
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	EBTNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ESMNGAES
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LKPKGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LMCYGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LMKNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LRVLGACS

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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LSBGGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	LSVLGAMA
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGABS
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGADE
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGAGC
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGASI
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGAWB
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SVNHGAWI
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	SWBOGAES
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	FHVLGAMA

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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	TLLPGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	TMPLGAMA
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	VLDSGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	VLRCGAES
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WDLYGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WDSTGACR
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WGVLGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WRNSGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WRRBGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WRTNGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WTVLGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WYBOGAES
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	WYCRGAMA
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL	ZBLNGAMA

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 10th day of November, 2010.

In the Matter of the Application of Telrite)
Corporation for Designation as an Eligible)
Telecommunications Carrier on a Wireless)
Basis (Low Income Only))

File No. XO-2011-0062

**ORDER GRANTING DESIGNATION AS AN
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

Issue Date: November 10, 2010

Effective Date: November 20, 2010

Syllabus: Through this order, the Missouri Public Service Commission grants eligible telecommunications carrier status to Telrite Corporation for the purpose of receiving low-income and disabled customer support in the AT&T Missouri service areas.

Background

Telrite filed its verified application on September 2, 2010, for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier on a Wireless Basis solely for the purpose of providing the services supported by and participating in the Low Income Programs of the Universal Service Fund. The Commission issued an order directing that notice of the application be sent and setting an intervention deadline of September 29. There were no applications to intervene. The company thereafter filed a supplement to the application by referencing certain additional commitments which the Commission found necessary in other ETC dockets.

The Staff of the Commission filed its recommendation on November 4, 2010. Staff recommends that the Commission grant Telrite's application to be designated as an ETC for the receipt of low-income support from the federal Universal Service Fund.

Discussion

The application is within the Commission's jurisdiction.¹ Because no party objects to Telrite's application, no evidentiary hearing is required.² Thus, the Commission deems the hearing waived³ and bases its findings on the verified filings, and makes its conclusions as follows.

Telrite is a Georgia corporation authorized to do business in the State of Missouri. This Commission has previously granted to Telrite the authority to provide interexchange telecommunications service in Missouri.⁴ Telrite is in compliance with the Missouri USF Assessment, this Commission's assessment and its annual report.

As required by the Federal Communications Commission and this Commission's rule, Telrite will provide service using at least a portion of its own facilities. It will ensure that certain service features are provided: touchtone, single-party, access to 911, IX service, relay (711), directory assistance, operators and toll limitation. Because the company is a wireless service, it will, within 30 days of receiving ETC status, make an informational filing describing all service offerings. It has committed to providing service throughout the proposed service area and in a timely manner, to remain functional in emergencies, to satisfy consumer protection and quality of service standards, to offering a comparable usage plan to the incumbent, and to maintain records of customer complaints.

¹ 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2).

² *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Ent., Inc. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 776 S.W.2d 494 (Mo.App.1989).

³ Section 536.060, RSMo

⁴ File No. XA-2004-0197.

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The company has provided statements that it will provide equal access if all other ETCs in that service area relinquish their ETC designations. It has also stated that it will satisfy consumer privacy protection standards. The company will also provide a clear bill design, provide online customer service contact information as well as billing statements. It will publicize Lifeline and will not collect a deposit from a Lifeline subscriber if the consumer voluntarily elects toll limitation service nor will it charge a Lifeline subscriber a monthly number portability charge.

Consistent with the federal plan, the company will provide the following discounts:

Tier 1: \$1.75 (fed discount)

Tier 2: \$6.50 (waive subscriber line charge), which it limited to ILEC's subscriber line charge

Tier 3: \$1.75 (half of a state's or carrier's contribution)

\$3.50 state MoUSF for a maximum of \$13.50.

Also, under FCC rules, the company is required to comply with state verification procedures in states that mandate state Lifeline support. This Commission requires the company to verify a customer's initial and continued eligibility and develop a process for documentation received. Finally, the company is to notify the Commission of any changes in contact information.

The Staff of the Commission points out that Telrite proposes to offer a wireless service for qualifying low-income customers. The proposed service will provide essentially a free wireless handset to qualifying customers with no monthly fees, and 68 minutes of usage per month with additional usage available for fees. Staff further notes that the company does not intend to seek Missouri USF funding for this service. Staff concludes that the company meets all requirements for ETC designation in order to receive low-income support.

Based upon the company's verified application and Staff's verified Memorandum, the Commission will grant Telrite's application and designate the company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Telrite Corporation's application as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the receipt of low-income support from the federal Universal Service Fund is granted.
2. This order shall become effective on November 20, 2010.
3. This case shall be closed on November 21, 2010.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Clayton, Chm., Davis, Jarrett,
Gunn, and Kenney, CC., concur.

Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

Entered: December 2, 2010

FINAL

12/22/2010

CASE NO. 10-1306-T-PC

TELRITE CORPORATION

Petition for consent and approval for limited
designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

RECOMMENDED DECISION

On August 18, 2010, Telrite Corporation (Telrite), a public telephone utility, Covington, Georgia, filed a petition with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the *Telecommunications Act of 1934*, as amended (*Act*), seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) throughout West Virginia for the purposes of receiving federal universal service fund (USF) support for providing wireline and wireless services through various low-income programs. Telrite asserted that, by Order entered on January 9, 2006, in Case No. 05-1062-T-CN, the Commission had authorized Telrite to provide resold local exchange telecommunications services throughout West Virginia, and, by Order entered on September 20, 2006, in Case No. 06-0406-T-CN, the Commission had authorized Telrite to provide facilities-based local exchange telecommunications services throughout West Virginia. Telrite is a competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC). Telrite asserted that it meets all of the qualifications necessary to be designated as an ETC under *Act* §214(e)(1) solely to provide services supported by and participating in the low income programs of the USF. Telrite provides CLEC services throughout West Virginia and is committed to provide those services at reasonably priced rates to areas where such services are not currently available. Telrite's offer in this case includes providing a handset at no cost to the subscriber. Telrite's proposal is to supplement, and not detract from, its current service offerings, and does not seek ETC designation beyond the geographic area for which it already has received certification. Telrite asserted that its proposal would benefit wireline and wireless customers by increasing customers' competitive choices; increasing the customers' geographical local calling areas by providing the customers with this service for a preset amount of air time at no charge, with the flexibility to purchase additional air time (with 911 and E911 services not using air time minutes); and otherwise make Telrite's service offering more appealing and valuable to its customers, outweighing any potential harms. Telrite provides Lifeline and Link-Up services that benefit needy low-income consumers, which enables many to obtain wireline and/or wireless services who otherwise would not be able to obtain those services. Telrite summarized several other components of its offering in support of receiving designation as an ETC.

On September 20, 2010, Staff Attorney Lisa L. Wansley filed the Initial Joint Staff Memorandum, attaching the September 15, 2010 Utilities Division Initial Recommendation from Utilities Analyst David Kennedy, indicating that, once it had completed its investigation, Commission Staff would submit a substantive recommendation. Staff detailed the specific requirements that Telrite must meet before the Commission can designate it as an ETC and outlined several documents and other information that Staff required before it could make a final substantive recommendation.

By the Commission Referral Order entered on September 28, 2010, the Commission referred this case to the Division of Administrative Law Judges (ALJ Division) for decision on or before March 16, 2011.

On October 4, 2010, Telrite filed responses to data requests from Staff.

By the Procedural Order issued on November 5, 2010, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) ordered that, on or before Tuesday, November 16, 2010, Commission Staff file its final substantive recommendation, and, on or before Monday, November 29, 2010, Telrite Corporation file its response to Staff's final substantive recommendation.

On November 10, 2010, Staff Attorney Wansley filed the Final Joint Staff Memorandum, attaching the November 8, 2010 Utilities Division Final Recommendation from Mr. Kennedy. Staff outlined the requirements that a telecommunications provider must meet in order to receive ETC status. Staff opined that Telrite was a common carrier as determined by federal law, citing §153(10) of the *Act*, and stating that the Commission had granted Telrite a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide resold local exchange telecommunications services in Case No. 05-1062-T-CN and to provide facilities-based local exchange telecommunications services in Case No. 06-0406-T-CN. Telrite offers the services using its own facilities, or a combination of its own facilities and resale, throughout its designated service area. Telrite has an interconnection agreement with Verizon West Virginia Inc., now Frontier West Virginia Inc., approved by the Commission in Case No. 07-2260-T-PC, and also has mobile virtual network operator agreements with AT&T and Verizon nationwide. Telrite offers at least some portion of the Lifeline services through its own facilities as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Telrite plans to advertise the availability of the Lifeline and Link-Up services using generally distributed media. Telrite meets its universal service obligations throughout its service territory, which it has requested to be the same as Frontier's service area. Telrite can provide voice-grade access to the public switched telephone network; local usage; dual-tone multi-frequency signal or its equivalent function; single party service or its functional equivalent; access to emergency services; access to operator services; access to interexchange services; access to directory assistance; and toll limitation for qualifying low-income customers. Telrite must satisfy applicable consumer protection and quality standards; file annually a report showing consumer complaints per 1,000 customers and demonstrate its ability to remain functional during emergency situations. Telrite does not have to submit a five-year plan describing proposed improvements or upgrades to its network since it is just seeking ETC status for the Lifeline and Link-Up services and not the high-cost programs. Telrite also assured Staff that it would ensure

that a single customer only receives one Lifeline discount by requiring each affected customer to certify annually, in writing, that the customer is the head of the household; participates in one of the state-approved means-tested programs; receives Lifeline-supported services solely through Telrite; and will notify Telrite if the customer is no longer eligible for Lifeline assistance. Telrite has asserted that it will use 100% of the USF support for providing the Lifeline program. Based on the above, Staff recommended that the Commission grant Telrite ETC status for the sole purpose of offering wireline and prepaid wireless Lifeline and Link-Up service to low-income households in West Virginia supported by the USF, and not the high cost program. Staff indicated that Telrite would provide these services under the name of Life Wireless, which would charge a \$30.00 activation fee for Lifeline customers which will be collected via agent store fronts, checks, credit card and money order. As long as the customer remains legitimately eligible for the Lifeline program, Telrite will provide the following services without additional charge:

1. Customers will incur no contractual obligation to continue service;
2. Customers will incur no roaming charges;
3. No cash deposit obligation is required for customers enrolled in the Lifeline program;
4. Customers may purchase additional minutes in denominations of \$10.00 (101 minutes), \$25.00 (252 minutes) and \$50.00 (unlimited talk and text);
5. Unless the customer is on the unlimited plan, text messaging is charged at a rate of \$0.05 per message;
6. Purchased minutes do not expire at the end of the 30-day service cycle and remain available until used or the customer account is terminated;
7. Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive a free handset with E911 capability;
8. Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive 68 free minutes each month. Unused minutes will roll over to the next month and do not expire for active customers; and
9. Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive free voice mail, caller ID, call waiting and call forwarding features which will remain in effect after the 68 free minutes have been consumed.

Finally, Staff recommended that the Commission require that Telrite file the appropriate tariff sheet revisions to its wireline service tariff currently on file and provide a tariff outlining the terms and conditions of service for wireless customers qualifying for the Lifeline and Link-Up programs.

On November 12, 2010, Telrite filed a letter accepting Staff's final substantive recommendations.

DISCUSSION

Having considered all of the above, since no dispute remains to be resolved in this proceeding, the ALJ will consider the parties to have waived their rights under *West Virginia Code* §24-1-9(b) to file proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, or briefs, in this proceeding, or to a hearing.

The ALJ holds that, since Telrite accepts Staff's recommendation to grant ETC status to Telrite as prescribed by Staff, he will grant Telrite ETC status to the extent recommended by Staff.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Telrite Corporation filed an application under §214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking designation by the Commission as an ETC for the sole purpose of providing "Lifeline" and "Link Up" service to qualifying low income West Virginia consumers. Telrite indicated that it will not seek access to the USF for the purpose of providing service to high-cost locales. Pursuant to Case No. 05-1602-T-CN, Telrite is a reseller of local exchange services throughout West Virginia, providing its services through a virtual network comprised of services provided by numerous licensed wireless networks, and, pursuant to Case No. 06-0406-T-CN, Telrite provides facilities based services throughout West Virginia. Telrite asserted that it meets all of the qualifications necessary to be designated as an ETC under *Act* §214(e)(1) solely to provide services supported by and participating in the low income programs of the USF. Telrite provides CLEC services throughout West Virginia and is committed to provide those services at reasonably priced rates to areas where such services are not currently available. Telrite's offer in this case includes providing a handset at no cost to the subscriber. Telrite's proposal is to supplement, and not detract from, its current service offerings, and it does not seek ETC designation beyond the geographic area for which it already has received certification. Telrite asserted that its proposal would benefit wireline and wireless customers by increasing customers' competitive choices; increasing the customers' geographical local calling areas by providing the customers with this service for a preset amount of air time at no charge, with the flexibility to purchase additional air time (with 911 and E911 services not using air time minutes); and otherwise make Telrite's service offering more appealing and valuable to its customers, outweighing any potential harms. Telrite provides Lifeline and Link-Up services that benefit needy low-income consumers, which enables many to obtain wireline and/or wireless services who otherwise would not be able to obtain those services. Telrite summarized several other components of its offering in support of receiving designation as an ETC. (See, petition filed on August 18, 2010).

2. Staff recommended that the Commission designate Telrite as an ETC throughout West Virginia, provided that Telrite provides its customers access to basic 911 and enhanced E911 services, provides E911-compliant handsets to all new Telrite customers and replaces non-compliant handsets at no charge to existing customers. The ETC status to be granted to Telrite is solely for the purpose of Telrite offering wireline and prepaid wireless Lifeline and Link-Up services to low-income households in West Virginia, not the high-cost program, supported by the USF. (See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

3. Telrite will provide the Lifeline and Link-Up services under the name of Life Wireless, which would charge a \$30.00 activation fee for Lifeline customers that will be collected via agent store fronts, checks, credit card and money order. As long as the customer remains legitimately eligible for the Lifeline program, Telrite will provide the following services without additional charge:

- (a) Customers will incur no contractual obligation to continue service;
- (b) Customers will incur no roaming charges;
- (c) No cash deposit obligation is required for customers enrolled in the Lifeline program;
- (d) Customers may purchase additional minutes in denominations of \$10.00 (101 minutes), \$25.00 (252 minutes) and \$50.00 (unlimited talk and text);
- (e) Unless the customer is on the unlimited plan, text messaging is charged at a rate of \$0.05 per message;
- (f) Purchased minutes do not expire at the end of the 30-day service cycle and remain available until used or the customer account is terminated;
- (g) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive a free handset with E911 capability;
- (h) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive 68 free minutes each month. Unused minutes will roll over to the next month and do not expire for active customers; and
- (i) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive free voice mail, caller ID, call waiting and call forwarding features which will remain in effect after the 68 free minutes have been consumed.

(See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

3. Staff also recommended that the Commission require that Telrite file the appropriate tariff sheet revisions to its wireline service tariff currently on file and provide a tariff outlining the terms and conditions of service for wireless customers qualifying for the Lifeline and Link-Up programs. (See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

4. Each of Telrite's Lifeline customers in West Virginia will receive 68 minutes of air time each month for all months in which the customers are enrolled in the program and any unused minutes will roll over to the following month. (See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

5. Eligibility for participation in Telrite's Lifeline program will be based upon customer enrollment in certain public assistance programs. Under Telrite's eligibility plan, applicants will be required to self-certify under penalty of perjury that they are enrolled in one of those qualifying public assistance programs. (See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

6. Telrite has demonstrated that it will comply with each of Staff's final substantive recommendations. (See, Final Joint Staff Memorandum, with attachment, file on November 10, 2010).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Telrite has demonstrated that it is a common carrier capable of offering and advertising all of the service offerings set forth in Section 214(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for eligible telecommunications carriers through the designated service areas, using either its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and the resale of another carrier's services, for the sole purpose of providing Lifeline and Link Up services to all qualifying customers who request such service in West Virginia.

2. Telrite should be designated as an ETC to provide Lifeline and Link Up services to all qualifying customers who request such service in West Virginia.

3. It is reasonable to require that the Commission's Executive Secretary provide the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company a certified copy of this Order designating Telrite as an ETC to provide Lifeline and Link Up services to all qualifying customers who request such service in West Virginia, but that Telrite will not seek access to funds from the federal Universal Service Fund for the purpose of providing service to high-cost locales.

4. It is reasonable to require that Telrite publish a Notice of the granting of its petition for designation as an ETC solely to provide Lifeline and Link Up services to all qualifying customers who request such service in West Virginia, as a Class I legal advertisement once in a newspaper duly qualified by the Secretary of State, published and generally circulated in each of the 19 cities designated for statewide legal publications.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the application filed with the Commission on August 18, 2010, by Telrite Corporation, under §214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking designation by the Commission as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the sole purpose of providing "Lifeline" and "Link Up" service to qualifying low income West Virginia consumers, be, and hereby is, approved, provided that Telrite provides:

1. Its customers access to basic 911 and enhanced E911 services;
2. E911 compliant handsets to all new Telrite customers and replaces non-compliant handsets at no charge to existing customers;

3. The eligible service for the sole purpose of offering wireline and prepaid wireless Lifeline and Link-Up service to low income households in West Virginia supported by the USF, and not the high cost program;
4. These services under the name of "Life Wireless," which will charge a \$30.00 activation fee for Lifeline customers which will be collected via agent store fronts, checks, credit card and money order. As long as the customer remains legitimately eligible for the Lifeline program, Telrite will provide the following services without additional charge:
 - (a) Customers will incur no contractual obligation to continue service;
 - (b) Customers will incur no roaming charges;
 - (c) No cash deposit obligation is required for customers enrolled in the Lifeline program;
 - (d) Customers may purchase additional minutes in denominations of \$10.00 (101 minutes), \$25.00 (252 minutes) and \$50.00 (unlimited talk and text);
 - (e) Unless the customer is on the unlimited plan, text messaging is charged at a rate of \$0.05 per message;
 - (f) Purchased minutes do not expire at the end of the 30-day service cycle and remain available until used or the customer account is terminated;
 - (g) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive a free handset with E911 capability;
 - (h) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive 68 free minutes each month. Unused minutes will roll over to the next month and do not expire for active customers; and
 - (I) Eligible customers qualifying under the Lifeline program will receive free voice mail, caller ID, call waiting and call forwarding features which will remain in effect after the 68 free minutes have been consumed.(a) Telrite will provide E911 compliant handsets to all Lifeline customers and non-compliant handsets in the possession of existing Telrite customers will be replaced with E911 compliant handsets at no charge to the customers upon their enrollment in the Lifeline program;
5. Each of Telrite's Lifeline customers in West Virginia will receive 68 minutes of airtime each month for all months in which the customers are enrolled in the program and any unused minutes will roll over to the following month;
6. Eligibility for participation in Telrite's Lifeline program will be based upon customer enrollment in certain public assistance programs. Under Telrite's eligibility plan applicants will be required to self-certify under penalty of perjury that they are enrolled in one of those qualifying public assistance programs; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Commission's Executive Secretary shall provide the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company a certified copy of this Order designating Telrite Corporation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier solely to provide Lifeline and Link Up services to all qualifying customers who request such service in West Virginia, and that Telrite will not seek access to funds from the federal Universal Service Fund for the purpose of providing service to high cost locales.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Telrite Corporation be, and hereby is directed, to publish the Notice of ETC Status, attached as Appendix A, as a Class I legal advertisement once in a newspaper duly qualified by the Secretary of State, published and generally circulated in each of the 19 cities designated for statewide legal publications.

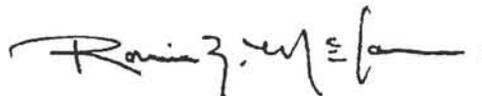
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter be, and hereby is, removed from the Commission's docket of open cases.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Secretary serve a copy of this order upon the Commission by hand delivery; by electronic service upon all parties of record who have filed an e-service agreement with the Commission; and by United States Certified Mail, return receipt requested, upon all parties of record who have not filed an e-service agreement with the Commission.

Leave hereby is granted to the parties to file written exceptions supported by a brief with the Executive Secretary of the Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date this Recommended Decision is mailed. If exceptions are filed, the parties filing exceptions shall certify to the Executive Secretary that all parties of record have been served said exceptions.

If no exceptions are so filed this Recommended Decision shall become the order of the Commission, without further action or order, five (5) days following the expiration of the aforesaid fifteen (15) day time period, unless it is ordered stayed or postponed by the Commission.

Any party may request waiver of the right to file exceptions to an Administrative Law Judge's recommended decision by filing an appropriate petition in writing with the Executive Secretary. No such waiver will be effective until approved by order of the Commission, nor shall any such waiver operate to make any Administrative Law Judge's recommended decision the order of the Commission sooner than five (5) days after approval of such waiver by the Commission.



Ronnie Z. McCann
Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge

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