

February 13, 2012

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: TracFone Wireless, Inc., CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

By this letter, TracFone Wireless, Inc. (“TracFone”) withdraws a Petition for Rulemaking and a Petition for Waiver filed in CC Docket No. 96-45 in 2009. On March 5, 2009, TracFone filed a Petition for Rulemaking to Revise Universal Service Support Available to Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (“ETCs”). In that petition, TracFone asked the Commission to amend the definition of Tier One Lifeline support in 47 C.F.R. § 54.403(a)(1) to allow all ETCs to receive the maximum available Tier One Lifeline support of \$6.50 per month in all service areas, provided that the ETCs commit to pass through to their Lifeline customers the full amount of Lifeline support they receive from the federal Universal Service Fund (“USF”) and provide their Lifeline customers with an additional amount of not less than \$3.50 per month in the form of Lifeline benefits. On May 4, 2009, TracFone filed a Petition for Waiver in which it asked the Commission to waive 47 C.F.R. § 54.403(a) so as to allow TracFone to receive Tier One Lifeline support in the amount of \$6.50 in all service areas where it operates as an ETC, provided that it passes through the entire amount of federal Lifeline support and contributes an additional \$3.50 towards its customers’ Lifeline benefits.

On February 6, 2012, the Commission released a report and order that substantially revised the rules governing the Lifeline program, including the rules that determine the amount of Lifeline support to which ETCs are entitled.<sup>1</sup> In the Lifeline Reform Order, the Commission modified Section 54.403 of its rules so as to eliminate Tiers One, Two and Three and replaced them with a flat Lifeline support rate of \$9.25 per line per month. This Lifeline support amount will be provided on an interim basis to all subscribers. The Commission also sought comment on what amount of Lifeline support should be provided to ETCs over the long term. Given that the Commission has adopted a uniform amount of Lifeline support, TracFone’s petition for

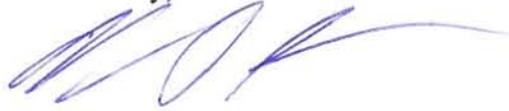
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<sup>1</sup> Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al., WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 12-11 (rel. Feb. 6, 2012) (“Lifeline Reform Order”).

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rulemaking and petition for waiver concerning the amount of Tier One support have been mooted by the Lifeline Reform Order. Therefore, TracFone hereby withdraws those petitions. In addition, TracFone asks the Commission, as it considers the appropriate amount of Lifeline support on a long term basis, to provide a sufficient amount of Lifeline support to allow ETCs to offer meaningful and valuable Lifeline benefits to Lifeline-eligible low-income consumers.

Sincerely,



Mitchell F. Brecher

cc: Ms. Kimberly Scardino