
**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)
)
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service) WC Docket No. 09-197
)
i-wireless, LLC)
)
Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible)
Telecommunications Carrier in the States of)
Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New)
Hampshire, North Carolina, New York,)
Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Virginia,)
and the District of Columbia)

REQUEST TO AMEND DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Lance J.M. Steinhart
Lance J.M. Steinhart, P.C.
1725 Windward Concourse, Suite 150
Alpharetta, Georgia 30005
(770) 232-9200 (Phone)
(770) 232-9208 (Fax)
E-Mail: lsteinhart@telecomcounsel.com

Attorneys for i-wireless, LLC

February 21, 2013

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I. INTRODUCTION

i-wireless, LLC (“i-wireless” or “the Company”), pursuant to Section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (“Communications Act”), and Section 54.201 of the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” or “Commission”), hereby requests that the Commission amend the Company’s designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) in the State of Florida to include the additional non-rural service territories of Bellsouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Florida (“AT&T”). Grant of i-wireless’ request will promote the public interest by providing customers in AT&T Florida service territories with low prices and high quality wireless services.

II. BACKGROUND

i-wireless provides prepaid wireless services on a common carrier basis, offering customers wireless voice, messaging, and data plans without a fixed-term contract or a credit check. i-wireless also offers a Lifeline program under its brand name "Access Wireless." i-wireless has received Compliance Plan approval,¹ and has been authorized as a Lifeline ETC by this Commission² and by the state public service commissions in 20 states. In its ETC Petition filed with this Commission, i-wireless requested ETC designation for its entire service area in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee and Virginia (i.e., the area served by the facilities-based carriers from whom it obtains wholesale service), but excluding any Tribal Areas. However, AT&T was inadvertently omitted from the list of approved service areas in Florida.

¹ See i-wireless LLC's Revised Compliance Plan, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Sept. 9, 2011) ("Compliance Plan"); *i-wireless, LLC Petition for Forbearance from 47 USC. §214(e)(1)(A)*, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket No. 09-197, DA 11-1763, 2011 WL 5038791 (rel. Oct. 21, 2011)("Compliance Plan Order").

² See *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, i-wireless, LLC Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the States of Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia*, WC Docket No. 09-197, Order, DA 12-934 (rel. June 13, 2012) ("ETC Order").

III. PUBLIC INTEREST DETERMINATION

The Commission has already found that the services that i-wireless offers as a Lifeline carrier fulfill the public interest for the State of Florida.³ The facts underlying i-wireless' offerings and the associated public interest benefits remain the same as with respect to the rest of i-wireless' Florida offering and operations. Thus, as in the rest of Florida, i-wireless will offer the services designated for support, advertise the supported services, comply with applicable service requirement, remain functional in emergency situations to the same extent as its underlying network provider, comply with the CTIA Consumer Code for wireless, and be financially and technically capable of providing Lifeline service in compliance with Subpart E of Title 47, Part 54 of the Code of Federal Regulations.⁴ i-wireless has previously provided the Commission with information regarding the terms and conditions of its Lifeline plans, and has made (and renews herein), its Anti-Drug Abuse Act certification.⁵

Furthermore in the *ETC Order*, the Commission determined that i-wireless' service offerings will provide a variety of benefits to Lifeline-eligible consumers including increased consumer choice, high-quality service offerings, and mobility, specifically noting that "i-wireless's prepaid feature may be attractive to Lifeline-eligible consumers who might otherwise be reluctant to subscribe to telephone service because of concerns about usage charges and long-term contracts."⁶ Among other things, i-wireless' affiliation with Kroger grocery stores gives it a significant ability to reach low income consumers and to provide them with affordable offerings

³ See *ETC Order* at ¶¶ 27-28.

⁴ See *id.*, ¶¶ 13, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24,

⁵ See *id.*, ¶¶ 19, 25, and Appendix B to this Petition.

⁶ See *id.* at ¶ 27.

and the benefit of receiving additional wireless service as part of the Kroger loyalty program.⁷ i-wireless will provide larger local calling areas than traditional wireline carriers, the convenience and security afforded by mobile telephone service, the opportunity for consumers to control cost through a preset amount of monthly airtime that they receive at no charge, the ability to purchase additional usage on a flexible and affordable basis, and access to 911 and E911 services at all times.⁸ i-wireless' Lifeline offerings compare favorably with those of other competitive ETCs.⁹ Accordingly, throughout its designated service area, i-wireless' presence as an ETC also promotes competition and innovation, spurs other carriers to target low-income consumers with service offerings tailored to their needs, and helps assure that quality services are available at "just, reasonable, and affordable rates" as envisioned in the Communications Act.¹⁰

There should be no public interest concern about correcting i-wireless' list of approved service areas to include AT&T territories in the State of Florida, especially in light of the safeguards already contained in i-wireless' approved Compliance Plan and its existing ETC designation which covers all other service areas in the State of Florida.¹¹

⁷ See Amended Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the States of Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia, WC Docket No. 09-197, at 38 (filed April 2, 2012).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* at 39.

¹⁰ See 47 U.S.C. § 254(b)(1).

¹¹ For the Commission's convenience, i-wireless has attached as Appendix A an updated list of the Company's ETC service areas; the only change between the attached list and the service area list provided in Appendix B and C of i-wireless' *ETC Order* is the addition of AT&T Florida to the non-rural telephone company study areas.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, i-wireless respectfully requests that the Commission amend i-wireless' ETC designation to include the AT&T service area in the State of Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lance J.M. Steinhart

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1725 Windward Concourse, Suite 150
Alpharetta, Georgia 30005
(770) 232-9200 (Phone)
(770) 232-9208 (Fax)
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APPENDIX A
I-WIRELESS' ETC SERVICE AREA

Non-Rural Telephone Company Study Areas for Inclusion in i-wireless' ETC Service Area

Alabama

South Central Bell - AL
CenturyTel-AL-South
CenturyTel-AL-North

Connecticut

Southern New England d/b/a AT&T Connecticut

Delaware

Verizon Delaware, Inc.

District of Columbia

Verizon Washington, D.C., Inc.

Florida

Bellsouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Florida
Verizon Florida

New Hampshire

Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a Fairpoint

New York

Verizon New York, Inc.
Frontier-Rochester

North Carolina

Bellsouth Telecommunications Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Tel.
Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, Inc.
Verizon South Inc. d/b/a North Carolina

Tennessee

Bellsouth Telecommunications Inc. d/b/a South Central Bell Tel.

Virginia

Verizon Virginia, Inc.
Verizon South Inc. - VA (Contel)

Rural Telephone Company Study Areas for Inclusion in i-wireless' ETC Service Area

Alabama

Blountsville Tel. Company
Brindlee Mountain
Butler Tel Co.
Castleberry Tel Co.
National Of Alabama
Farmers Telcom Coop
Graceba Total Comm
Gulf Tel Co - AL
HayneVille Tel Co.
Hopper Telecomm. Co.
Frontier-Lamar CNTY
Windstream AL
Millry Tel Co.
Mon-CRE Tel Coop
Frontier Comm - AL
Moundville Tel Co.
New Hope Tel Coop.
Oakman Tel Co. (TDS)
Otelco Telephone LLC
Peoples Tel. Co.
Pine Belt Tel. Com
Ragland Tel Co.
Roanoke Tel. Co.
Frontier Comm-South
Union Springs Tel Co.

Connecticut

The Woodbury Tel Co.

Florida

GTC, Inc.
Frontier Comm-South
Smart City Tel LLC
ITS Telecomm. Sys.
Northeast Florida
Windstream Florida
Quincy Tel Co-FI Div.
Embarq Florida Inc.

New Hampshire

Bretton Woods Tel Co.
Granite State Tel
Dixville Tel Co.
Dunbarton Tel Co.
Kearsarge Tel Co.
Merrimack County Tel.
Union Tel. Co.
Wilton Tel Co-NH
MCTA, Inc.

New York

Armstrong Tel Co-NY
Frontier Ausable Val
Berkshire Tel Corp.
Cassadaga Tel Corp.
Champlain Tel Co.
Chautauqua & Erie
Chazy & Westport
Citizens Hammond NY
Taconic Tel Corp.
Crown Point Tel Corp.
Delhi Tel Co.
Deposit Tel Co.
Dunkirk & Fredonia
Edwards Tel Co.
Empire Tel Corp.
Fishers Island Tel.
Germantown Tel Co.
Hancock Tel Co.
Frontier Comm of NY
Margaretville Tel Co.
Middleburgh Tel Co.
Windstream NY-Fulton
Newport Tel Co.
Nicholville Tel Co.
Winstream-Jamestown
Odgen Tel DBA Frontier
Oneida County Rural
Ontario Tel Co, Inc.
Winstream Red Jacket
Oriskany Falls Tel.
Pattersonville Tel.
Port Byron Tel Co.
Frontier-Rochester
Frontier Communications of Seneca Gorham, Inc.
State Tel Co.
Frontier-Sylvan Lake
Township Tel Co.
Trumansburg Tel Co.
Vernon Tel Co.
Warwick Valley-NY
Citizens-Frontier-NY

North Carolina

Atlantic Membership
Barnardsville Tel Co.
Citizens Tel Co.
Concord Tel Co.
Ellerbre Tel Co.
LexCom Telephone Co.
Carolina Tel and Tel Co., LLC d/b/a Centurylink
Centel of NC

Mebtel, Inc. d/b/a Centurylink
N St. DBA N. St. Comm.
Piedmont Membership
Pineville Telephone Co.
Randolph Tel Co.
Randolph Membership
Saluda Mountain Tel.
Service Tel Co.
Skyline Membership
Star Membership Corp.
Surry Membership
Tri County Tel Membership
Wilkes Membership
Yadkin Valley Telephone Membership Corp.
Windstream NC

Tennessee

Ardmore Tel Co.
CenturyTel-Adamsville
Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Bledsoe Tel Coop.
Century-Claiborne
Concord Telephone Exchange, Inc. d/b/a TDS Telecom
Crockett Tel Co.
DeKalb Telephone Cooperative
Highland Telephone Cooperative, Inc. - TN
Humphrey's County
United Inter-MT-TN
Loretto Tel Co.
Millington Telephone Co.
North Central Coop.
CenturyTel-Ooltewah
Tennessee Telephone Co. d/b/a TDS Telecom
Peoples Tel Co.
Tellico Tel Co.
Twin Lakes Tel Coop.
Citizens Telecom Vol St. LLC d/b/a Frontier Vol State
UTC of TN
West Tennessee Tel.
Yorkville Tel Coop.
West Kentucky Rural Telephone
Citizens-Frontier-TN

Virginia

Buggs Island Coop
Burke's Garden Tel
Citizens Tel Coop
Ntelos, Inc.
Highland Tel Coop.
MGW Tel. Co. Inc.
New Hope Tel Coop.

Pembroke Tel Coop.
Peoples Mutual Tel.
Scott County Coop
Roanoke & Botetourt
Shenandoah Tel Co.
Virginia Tel Co.
Centel of Virginia
Verizon South-VA
New Castle Tel. Co.
Shenandoah Telephone Company- NR
United Inter-MT-VA

APPENDIX B
DECLARATION OF I-WIRELESS, LLC

I, Paul McAleese, do hereby declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am Chief Executive Officer of i-wireless, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company with its principal place of business at 1 Levee Way, Suite 3104, Newport, Kentucky 41071.
2. To the best of my knowledge, the Petitioner referred to in the foregoing Petition, including all officers, directors, or persons holding five percent or more of the outstanding stock or shares (voting or non-voting) are not subject to denial of federal benefits, including Federal Communications Commission benefits, pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.
3. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on February 21, 2013.



Paul McAleese
Chief Executive Officer