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October 15, 2013

*Via USPS Express Mail*

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C. 20554

Re: *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90; **2013 FCC Form 481**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In compliance with the Commission's rules at 47 CFR §§ 54.313(h)(2)(i) and 54.422(c), Vaughnsville Telephone Company ("Vaughnsville") herewith submits a copy of its 2013 Form 481.

Vaughnsville requests that the financial results required in the section entitled "Rate of Return Carrier Additional Information"<sup>1</sup> be accorded confidential treatment. Attached please find a statement of the reasons for withholding the redacted materials from public inspection pursuant to 47 CFR § 0.459.

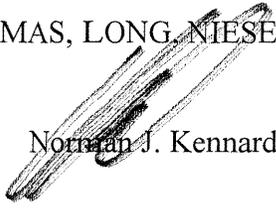
Vaughnsville has e-filed, through ECFS, the redacted version and sent via USPS Express Mail the confidential version (original and one copy) of its 2013 FCC Form 481.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

THOMAS, LONG, NIESEN & KENNARD

By:

  
Norman J. Kennard

NJK:tlt

<sup>1</sup> The financial reports section of FCC Form 481 is identified at the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") website as "Section 3005" in the downloadable version and as "Section 3000" in the online filing version at the same USAC website. <http://www.usac.org/hc/tools/forms.aspx>. The same identical financial information is required in both. The request for confidentiality applies regardless of whether the form submitted employs the 3005 or 3000 designation.

**STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST AND  
JUSTIFICATION OF VAUGHNSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY**

Vaughnsville Telephone Company (“Vaughnsville” or “Company”) is a small, privately held rural local exchange company based in Ohio. Vaughnsville requests confidential treatment of certain information being provided to the Commission in its 2013 FCC Form 481, because the information is competitively sensitive and its disclosure would have negative competitive consequences upon Vaughnsville were it made publicly available. Such information would not ordinarily be made available to the public and should be afforded confidential treatment under 47 CFR § 0.459.

Specifically, Vaughnsville requests that the documentation required in the section entitled “Rate of Return Carrier Additional Information,”<sup>1</sup> which consists of the Company’s financial reports, income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement, be accorded confidential treatment (“Confidential Information”).

**Degree to Which the Information in Question is Commercial or Financial, or Contains a Trade Secret or is Privileged**

The Confidential Information is financial information, specifically the Company’s income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement. Financial Information is clearly deserving of confidential treatment.

The Confidential Information is also a trade secret under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). While there is no clear federal definition, the *Uniform Trade Secrets Act* defines trade secret as information that derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to or readily ascertainable through appropriate means by other persons who might obtain economic value from its disclosure or use and is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy. <http://www.uniformlaws.org/Default.aspx>. The information for which confidential treatment is sought meets that definition.

**Degree to Which the Information Concerns a Service that is Subject to Competition**

Ohio has successfully opened its telecommunications markets to full competition. The services offered by the Company, including voice and broadband services, are subject to vigorous competition from complete local exchange carriers, cable operators, wireless carriers

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<sup>1</sup> The financial reports section of FCC Form 481 is identified at the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) website as “Section 3005” in the downloadable version and as “Section 3000” in the online filing version at the same USAC website. <http://www.usac.org/hc/tools/forms.aspx>. The same identical financial information is required in both. The request for confidentiality applies regardless of whether the form submitted employs the 3005 or 3000 designation.

and VoIP providers. Many of the Company's competitors are large, well-financed and national, even international, in scope.

**Manner in Which Disclosure of the Information Could Result in Substantial Competitive Harm**

The Confidential Information could be employed by both existing and potential competitors in a variety of ways, including: to determine the size of the market; the profitability of the market; and the financial resources of the Company. Clearly, were the Confidential Information made public, competitors could and would use this information to their competitive advantage. Moreover, disclosure would adversely affect Vaughnsville's ability to conduct business with other carriers.

**Measures Taken to Prevent Unauthorized Disclosure**

The Company has taken precautions to guard the secrecy of its financial results, including the Confidential Information, by limiting its dissemination. The Confidential Information is not known outside of Vaughnsville and is known within the Company only to senior managers and a limited number of employees with a particular need to know. Vaughnsville has expended a significant amount of time and money in developing the Confidential Information. The Confidential Information cannot be replicated by any other means.

**Availability of the Information to the Public and Extent of Any Previous Disclosure of the Information to Third Parties**

The Confidential Information is not available to the general public and has never been disclosed to any outside third parties, except as may be associated with financing, in which case confidentiality is required.

**Justification of the Period During Which the Material Should Not be Available for Public Disclosure**

Vaughnsville requests that the Confidential Information be maintained on a confidential basis indefinitely. Disclosure of the information at any time would be harmful.

**Any Other Information That the Party Seeking Confidential Treatment Believes May Be Useful In Assessing Whether Its Request For Confidentiality Should Be Granted.**

Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person [that is] privileged or confidential."- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). The exemption affords protection to those submitters who are required to furnish

commercial or financial information to the government by safeguarding them from the competitive disadvantages that could result from disclosure. If the financial information relates to business or trade, courts have considered it “commercial or financial.” *See, e.g., Dow Jones Co. v. FERC*, 219 F.R.D. 167, 176 (C.D. Cal. 2002) (information relating “to business decisions and practices regarding the sale of power, and the operation and maintenance” of generators (quoting agency declaration)); *Merit Energy Co. v. United States Dep’t of the Interior*, 180 F. Supp. 2d 1184, 1188 (D. Colo. 2001) (“information regarding oil and gas leases, prices, quantities and reserves”), *appeal dismissed*, No. 01-1347 (10th Cir. Sept. 4, 2001). The Confidential Information satisfies this test as well.

<b>FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<b>&lt;010&gt; Study Area Code</b>	300663
<b>&lt;015&gt; Study Area Name</b>	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<b>&lt;020&gt; Program Year</b>	2014
<b>&lt;030&gt; Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data</b>	Marty Kaplan
<b>&lt;035&gt; Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line &lt;030&gt;</b>	419-646-3431
<b>&lt;039&gt; Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line &lt;030&gt;</b>	Vvtelco@bright.net

<b>ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS</b>	<b>54.313 Completion Required</b>	<b>54.422 Completion Required</b>
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			(check box when complete)	
<b>&lt;100&gt;</b>	Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>&lt;200&gt;</b>	Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;210&gt;</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <-- check box if no outages to report			
<b>&lt;300&gt;</b>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>&lt;310&gt;</b>	Detail on Attempts (voice)	(attach descriptive document)		
<b>&lt;320&gt;</b>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)			
<b>&lt;330&gt;</b>	Detail on Attempts (broadband)	(attach descriptive document)		
<b>&lt;400&gt;</b>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;410&gt;</b>	Fixed	0.0		
<b>&lt;420&gt;</b>	Mobile			
<b>&lt;430&gt;</b>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)			
<b>&lt;440&gt;</b>	Fixed			
<b>&lt;450&gt;</b>	Mobile			
<b>&lt;500&gt;</b>	Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;510&gt;</b>	<input type="text" value="300663oh510"/>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;600&gt;</b>	Functionality in Emergency Situations	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;610&gt;</b>	<input type="text" value="300663oh610"/>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;700&gt;</b>	Company Price Offerings (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)		
<b>&lt;710&gt;</b>	Company Price Offerings (broadband)	(complete attached worksheet)		
<b>&lt;800&gt;</b>	Operating Companies and Affiliates	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>&lt;900&gt;</b>	Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)? <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>	(if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>&lt;1000&gt;</b>	Voice Services Rate Comparability	(check to indicate certification)		
<b>&lt;1010&gt;</b>	<input type="text"/>	(attach descriptive document)		
<b>&lt;1100&gt;</b>	Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)? <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	(if not, check to indicate certification)		
<b>&lt;1110&gt;</b>		(complete attached worksheet)		
<b>&lt;1200&gt;</b>	Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	(complete attached worksheet)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet**  
 Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

<b>&lt;2000&gt;</b>		(check to indicate certification)		
<b>&lt;2005&gt;</b>		(complete attached worksheet)		

**Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet**

<b>&lt;3000&gt;</b>		(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>&lt;3005&gt;</b>		(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	300663
<015>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Vvtelco@bright.net
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

Name of Attached Document (.pdf)

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets
- <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received
- <115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality
- <116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage
- <117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity
- <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.










<b>(900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	300663
<015>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	vvtelco@bright.net

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document (.pdf)

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions;
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select (Yes, No, NA)

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	300663
<015>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	vvtelco@bright.net

<1120> Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

<1130> Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

**(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**  
**Lifeline**  
**Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	300663
<015>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Vvtelco@bright.net

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans 300663oh1210  
 Name of attached document (.pdf)

<1220> Link to Public Website HTTP \_\_\_\_\_

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

<1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,

<1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,

<1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.

<b>(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b> <i>Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers</i>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	300663
<015>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Vvtelco@bright.net

**CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.**

**Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting**

<2010>	2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)}	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2011>	3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)}	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)}**

<2012>	2013 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2013>	2014 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2014>	2015 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

<2016>	Certification Support Used to Build Broadband	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

<2017>	3rd year Broadband Service Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2018>	5th year Broadband Service Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2019>	Interim Progress Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF , on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information _____
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<b>Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<b>&lt;010&gt;</b>	Study Area Code	300663
<b>&lt;015&gt;</b>	Study Area Name	VAUGHNSVILLE TEL CO
<b>&lt;020&gt;</b>	Program Year	2014
<b>&lt;030&gt;</b>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Marty Kaplan
<b>&lt;035&gt;</b>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	419-646-3431
<b>&lt;039&gt;</b>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Vvtelco@bright.net

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: _____	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Signature of Authorized Officer: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Officer: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

## Attachments



# VAUGHNSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

BOX 127 • VAUGHNSVILLE, OHIO 45893-0127 • 419-646-3431

## Line 510, Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance

Documentation of the company's compliance with certification requirements pursuant to 47 CFR §54.313(a)(5).

In addition to the rules and regulations contained in Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, Vaughnsville Telephone Company (SAC 300663) is subject to the following Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:

### Ohio Administrative Code

- 4901:1-6-09 Eligible Telecommunication Carrier certification (high cost and Lifeline).
- 4901:1-6-12 Service Requirements for BLES (Basic Local Exchange Service), including installation and repair intervals, deposits, payments and disconnection.
- 4901:1-6-13 Warm line service.
- 4901:1-6-14 BLES pricing parameters, including late payment charges and reconnection fees.
- 4901:1-6-15 Directory Information.
- 4901:1-6-16 Unfair or deceptive acts and practices.
- 4901:1-6-17 Truth in billing requirements.
- 4901:1-6-18 Slamming and preferred carrier freezes.
- 4901:1-6-19 Lifeline requirements.
- 4901:1-6-20 Discounts for persons with communications disabilities.
- 4901:1-6-27 Provider of last resort (POLR).
- 4901:1-6-30 Company records and complaint procedures.
- 4901:1-6-31 Emergency and outage operations.
- 4901:1-7-03 Toll presubscription.
- 4901:1-7-24 Local number portability (LNP).
- 4901:1-7-26 Competition safeguards (CPNI).

### Ohio Revised Code

- 4927.06 Unfair or deceptive trade practices.
- 4927.08 Basic local exchange service standards.
- 4927.09 Access to 9-1-1 service.
- 4927.11 Access to basic local exchange service.
- 4927.12 Alteration of rates for basic local exchange service.
- 4927.13 Lifeline service for eligible residential customers.
- 4927.14 Adoption of rules for rates for persons with disabilities.
- 4927.15 Rates, terms and conditions for 9-1-1 and other services.
- 4927.17 Notice of rates, terms or conditions of service; contact information to be provided on bills and notices.

The company has established policies and procedures designed to protect consumers, including publishing the following in the telephone directory provided to each customer: customer rights, formal complaint procedures, and policies related to privacy, slamming and cramming.

The company observes strict compliance to all CPNI rules, including training for new employees, refresher training for current employees, maintaining written practices for handling CPNI and submitting annual certifications to regulatory agencies. The CPNI manual is available for inspection at the company business office. The company uses a contracted service order administrator to process LNP requests within the time constraints contained in the rules. Customer billing is performed by a billing vendor that maintains software that complies with all truth in billing requirements, including the information that is required to be displayed on the customer bill. The company maintains a CALEA manual and utilizes a third party vendor to make sure that all CALEA requests are processed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The CALEA manual and procedures are filed with the appropriate agencies and are also maintained at the company business office.

The company's Basic Local Exchange Service Tariff, PUCO No. 4, contains BLES pricing, 9-1-1, Lifeline and IntraLATA presubscription information, terms and conditions. The tariff is available at the company business office and in the tariff section of the PUCO website <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>.

Other sections of FCC Form 481 contain additional information regarding the following:

Lifeline terms and conditions - Line 1210

Emergency operations - Line 610



## VAUGHNSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

BOX 127 • VAUGHNSVILLE, OHIO 45893-0127 • 419-646-3431

### Line 610, Functionality in Emergency Situations

Documentation of the company's processes implemented to assure compliance with certification requirements pursuant to 47 CFR §54.313(a)(6) and §54.202(a)(2).

Vaughnsville Telephone Company (SAC 300663) has an employee call-out procedure in place to mobilize its entire workforce in the event of an emergency situation. The notification process utilizes landline, cellular and internet technologies. In the event of total failure of all communications technologies, company practices include having employees report to the central office to obtain further instructions.

The central office and core network functionality is supported by 8 hours of battery reserve and a 30 kw generator set capable of running continuously for 200 hours before needing to be refueled. Network nodes containing active electronic equipment are equipped with battery backup. The company maintains a number of portable generator sets that can be deployed to network nodes in the event a power outage exceeds the battery reserve capacity.

The facility network is designed as a diverse-routed fiber optic ring, capable of instantaneously switching traffic around damaged facilities. The company has arrangements with multiple splicing contractors for rapid deployment and restoration of fiber optic cables.

The network is capable of managing traffic spikes caused by emergency situations. This is accomplished by maintaining properly sized trunk groups to the PSTN.



## VAUGHNSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

BOX 127 • VAUGHNSVILLE, OHIO 45893-0127 • 419-646-3431

### Line 1210, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Customers

Vaughnsville Telephone Company (SAC 300663) has established terms and conditions for Lifeline customers that incorporate the federal and state requirements as documented in its Basic Local Exchange Service Tariff PUCO No. 4, Section 5, First Revised Sheet No. 1.

*The Company shall provide Lifeline service as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.401 (a) on a non-discriminatory basis to all qualifying low-income customers. The Company's Lifeline service offering shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, including, but not limited to, 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart E; the FCC's Lifeline reform order (Report and Order released February 6, 2012, WC Docket No. 11-42, et. al) and any subsequent clarifying orders; Section 4927.13, Revised Code; Rule 4901:1-6-19, Ohio Administrative Code; and, the Commission's nontraditional Lifeline service order (Finding and Order adopted May 23, 2012, Case No. 10-2377-TP-COI) and any subsequent entries and/or orders.*

The Lifeline discount applies to Basic Local Exchange Service (BLES) as defined by Ohio Revised Code 4927.01(A)(1). For residence customers, BLES consists of local dial tone service, flat-rate telephone exchange service, touch-tone dialing service, access to and usage of 9-1-1 services, provision of a telephone directory at no charge, listing in that directory, per call caller identification blocking services, access to telecommunications relay service and access to toll presubscription, interexchange or toll providers or both, and networks of other telephone companies. The company also provides an optional toll denial feature at no additional charge. The current rates for residential BLES range from \$10.83 to \$14.83 per month depending on whether the customer is located in the Base Rate Area or one of four Bands or Zones.

The company applies the Lifeline support amount as follows: first, to waive the End User Common Line EUCL) Charge of \$6.50 and second, to discount the residential BLES charge with the remaining balance of the support amount, in compliance with 47 CFR §54.403(b).

Residential BLES customers may also add optional service features and subscribe to a variety of long distance calling plans offered by the company. These optional services are described on the company website (<http://www.vaughnsvillecomm.com>) under the Phone Services link. No discount is applied to these services because the entire Lifeline support amount is exhausted after applying it to the EUCL and BLES charges.