Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Ellen Nowak, Chairperson
Phil Montgomery, Commissioner
Mike Huebsch, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way
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May 18, 2016

VIA: E-Mail and Web Posting

TO: Wisconsin Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs)

FROM: Jeffrey J. Richter, USF Director
Division of Business and Program Services

Peter R. Jahn, Principal Telecom Analyst
Division of Water, Telecommunications and Consumer Affairs

Re: Collection of FCC Form 481s and Related Documents Filed by Eligible Telecommunications Carriers and Other Providers in Calendar Year 2016 — 5-KA-2016

Instructions for Filing the 2016 FCC Form 481 and an Affidavit of Lifeline Compliance

Annual filing requirements for ETCs are set forth in federal rules in 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.422. This year the Form 481 filings codified under these rules are due to the FCC on July 1, 2016. ETCs must also complete and submit to the PSCW an affidavit "Regarding Eligibility for Federal and State Lifeline Support Funds" to document their continued qualification for low-income support. Both the copy of the Form 481 filing and the Affidavit are due to the PSCW no later than July 15, 2015.

The docket number and content of the Wisconsin ETC recertification filings is the changed for 2016. All ETCs shall submit to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) a copy of their federal Form 481 filing under **docket 05-KA-2016**. As was requested last year the Commission is requesting the filing of an affidavit of compliance with state and federal Lifeline requirements must accompany this filing. **Note: All ETCs, both state**

and federal-only, <u>are required</u> to use the state's CALER database access for both initial Lifeline eligibility verifications and annual reverifications. The ETC must provide an affidavit attesting that the ETC will comply with these requirements, including use of CALER.

Each ETC should submit to the Commission a copy of its Form 481 filing and a completed Lifeline affidavit by July 15, 2016. This allows ETCs an additional 10 business days for the state filing due to the Commission's requirement of an affidavit. For your convenience, the Lifeline Affidavit form is attached. The affidavit is also available in MS Word format at the following link: http://psc.wi.gov/utilityInfo/tele/newsInfo/eligibleCarriers.htm.

The filing should be submitted via the Commission's Electronic Regulatory Filing (ERF) system by July 15, 2016. The docket number is 05-KA-2016. There is a button link to the ERF System on the Commission's web homepage, at: *www.psc.wi.gov*. Instructions on using ERF, and the help number, can be found on the ERFS webpage.

The Commission staff will review the submissions received and draft a letter to the FCC and USAC to address the FCC's requirements and then submit the required Commission filing by the October 1, 2016, deadline.

All filings need to be identified in a uniform way to facilitate Commission staff's review. In the "Description" section of the ERFS submission form the filings should be identified with the PSC Utility Number, Utility Name, federal Study Area Code, and followed by any further description desired. Example: 2085, Enterprise Telephone Company, SAC 33xxxx, 2015 Form 481 and Lifeline Affidavit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Pete Jahn at (608) 267-2338 or contact him via E-mail at peter.jahn@wisconsin.gov.

DL:01411148

cc: Wisconsin Telecommunications Stakeholders List, ETC Contact List.

AFFIDAVIT OF _____
(Carrier name)
(A WISCONSIN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER)
REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL AND STATE LOW-INCOME SUPPORT FUNDS

STATE OF _____)
) ss.
COUNTY OF_____)

I, the undersigned, being duly sworn, state as follows:

1. I am the _____ of _____ ("Carrier"),
   (Official title) (Carrier name)
   Wisconsin Utility Number _____ and FCC Study Area Code _____.
2. I am a corporate officer responsible for certifying Carrier's Lifeline program compliance.

I declare under penalty of perjury that I have authority to bind the above-named Carrier to the following statements, and that they are true and correct with respect to Carrier.

3. Carrier is an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) within the meaning of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) as enacted by the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, and is eligible to receive universal service support pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 254(e).
4. Carrier will abide by all relevant requirements for ETCs set forth in federal statues or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules.
5. Carrier will first use the CALER database query procedures to verify Lifeline eligibility of all customers on an initial and annual basis.
6. [If required to file one:] Carrier will abide by the terms of its compliance plan.
7. Carrier will timely file the annual fiscal questionnaire, and any other filings required by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW).

<u>Check only one box below to include the applicable statement nos. 8 and 9 in the affidavit.</u>

☐ Carrier ***is certified as a "federal only"*** ETC under Wis. Stat. § 196.218(4)(b) and:

8. Carrier is a Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) provider.
9. Carrier will neither request nor receive state universal service funding.

☐ Carrier ***is not a certified "federal only"*** ETC under Wis. Stat. § 196.218(4)(b) and:

8. Carrier will provide the services as defined in Wis. Stats. § 196.218(1)(a), incorporating the services and functionalities as listed in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a).
9. Carrier will charge the minimum charge for lifeline service as set forth in Wis. Admin. Code PSC § 160.062(2)(c), or, if the PSCW has granted a waiver of that requirement, will abide by all conditions of that waiver.

_____
(Signature)

_____
(Typed name)

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this ___ day of _____, 2016.
_____, Notary Public
_____ County, _____ (State)
My Commission expires _____