

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF SOUTH CENTRAL TELCOM, )  
LLC FOR DESIGNATION AS A )  
COMPETITIVE ELIGIBLE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER ) CASE NO. 2005-00541  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 214(E) OF THE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 )

ORDER

On December 16, 2005, South Central Telcom, LLC (“South Central”) petitioned the Commission to designate South Central as an eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.201.

On January 12, 2006, the Commission issued an Order setting out a procedural schedule in this matter. No party requested intervention or submitted comments in the proceeding other than the applicant. Likewise no party requested a public hearing in the matter and therefore the matter is ripe for decision by the Commission.

South Central is a competitive local exchange carrier (“CLEC”) with its corporate address at 1399 Happy Valley Road, Glasgow, Kentucky. South Central provides local exchange service using its own facilities. South Central’s service area and the area for which it seeks designation as an ETC is the single wire center of GLSGKYXADS0 of the incumbent carrier Kentucky ALLTEL, Inc. (“Kentucky ALLTEL”), a non-rural incumbent local exchange carrier.

To receive ETC status, the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) requires a common carrier to: (1) offer services that are supported by federal universal

support mechanisms<sup>1</sup> throughout its designated service area; (2) provide these services using its own facilities (including unbundled network elements) or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's facilities; and (3) advertise the availability of these services through media of general distribution.

The Commission finds that South Central has met the standards established by the FCC. South Central currently provides services eligible for support by the federal universal service fund in the service area for which it seeks ETC designation.<sup>2</sup> In its petition requesting ETC designation, South Central affirmed that it offers these services using its own facilities.<sup>3</sup> South Central has begun advertising the availability and price of these services using media of general distribution.<sup>4</sup> South Central has complied fully with FCC guidelines regarding ETC designation.

South Central has provided sufficient evidence for this Commission to grant ETC status. This designation will benefit consumers in Kentucky by expanding the range of competitive choices and by providing an incentive for incumbent telephone companies to improve their existing networks.

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<sup>1</sup> These services are: (1) voice grade access to the public switched 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 emergency services; (6) access to operator services; (7) access to interexchange services; (8) access to directory assistance services; and (9) toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a).

<sup>2</sup> South Central's Petition at pp. 3 - 6.

<sup>3</sup> Id. at 3. In addition, South Central has a resale agreement with Kentucky ALLTEL to provide resale services.

<sup>4</sup> Information Request Item No. 2.

The Commission, having reviewed the evidence of record and having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. South Central is designated as an ETC for the wire center GLSGKYXADS0 of Kentucky ALLTEL. Accordingly, South Central is eligible to receive federal Universal Service Fund support.

2. South Central shall offer universal support services to consumers in its service area.

3. South Central shall offer these services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services, including the services offered by another ETC.

4. South Central shall advertise the availability of and charges for these services using media of general distribution.

5. South Central has certified to the Commission that it will comply with the FCC's criteria, in accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e), and therefore eligible to receive Universal Service Fund support for the current certification period.

6. By September 1, 2006, and by each September 1 thereafter, South Central shall make its annual certification filing in Administrative Case No. 381.<sup>5</sup>

7. A copy of this Order shall be served upon the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company.

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<sup>5</sup> Administrative Case No. 381, A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2006.

By the Commission

ATTEST:



Executive Director