COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF BIRCH TELECOM OF THE)SOUTH, INC. D/B/A BIRCH COMMUNICATIONS)OF THE SOUTHEAST FOR DESIGNATION AS)AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)CARRIER IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF)KENTUCKY FOR THE LIMITED PURPOSE OF)OFFERING LIFELINE SERVICE TO QUALIFIED)HOUSEHOLDS)

CASE NO. 2012-00540

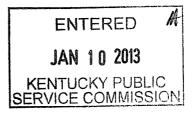
<u>ORDER</u>

On December 7, 2012, Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. d/b/a Birch Communications of the Southeast ("Birch") filed with the Commission an application requesting designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") in Kentucky for the purpose of offering lifeline service to qualified households. On December 21, 2012, Birch notified the Commission that it was withdrawing its ETC application. Because there is no longer an application pending before the Commission, there is no reason for this case to continue and the Commission finds that it should be dismissed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this case is dismissed and removed from the Commission's docket.

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By the Commission



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